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HIGH TIMES

March 434

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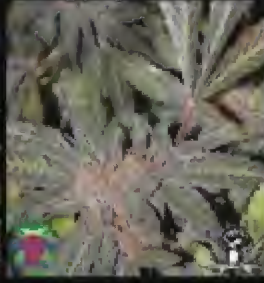
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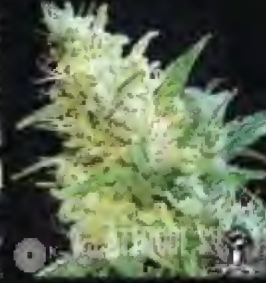
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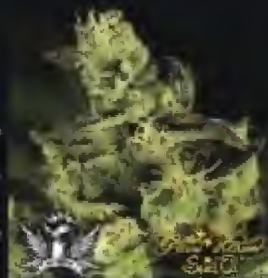
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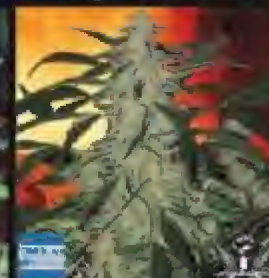
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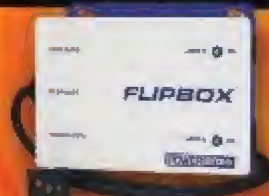
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HIGH TIMES MARCH



Understanding how to control the environment is the single most important factor separating the fruitful indoor pot producer from those who never seem to get it quite right.

—A Beginner's Guide to Growing Marijuana Indoors, Page 49

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You've finally made the decision to grow your own indoors. What happens next? Danny Danko provides a primer for getting started.

58 Breeding for Home Growers

Mel Frank unlocks the most enjoyable aspect of marijuana gardening—breeding—by breaking down how to do it at home. If you ever imagined creating your own favorite strains and stocking up on seeds for future gardens...well, now you can!

72 The Gold Standard


When it comes to producing huge, 14-foot marijuana trees, there's nothing like the great outdoors. But there's a lot more than meets the eye when considering an outdoor operation. *By Nico Escondido*

84 Cashing In On the Earth Cashing Out

The Mayan calendar and its "end date" of Dec. 21, 2012, has become a cash cow for eccentrics and opportunists seeking to sell books and videos or simply scare the crap out of you. What's the truth behind the 2012 phenomenon? HIGH TIMES investigates. *By Mike Hughes*

90 HIGH TIMES Interview with Jeremy Piven

The Emmy Award-winning actor behind *Entourage's* Ari Gold talks about smoking up with Snoop Dogg, his role opposite Rob Lowe in the hot new indie flick *I Melt With You*, and why we need to legalize the "herbal medicine" as soon as possible. *By David Bienenstock*



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Greetings, Amigos!

IF YOU HAVEN'T already figured it out from the cover, this issue is dedicated to the home grower, who—in these days of unbalanced marijuana prohibition versus a sane and compassionate medical marijuana policy—is really the soul of our movement. There are, of course, others taking part in this revolution: our policy leaders and generals, the weed warriors and soldiers on the front lines, the brave-hearted commercial growers, the guerrillas in the night, the dispensary owners and the everyday stoners. But I think a special shout-out is due to all those closet growers, those basement bailers and attic agriculturalists. Sure, they keep their grow on the down-low—hell, they may not even share their stash much—but they quietly and firmly say “Fuck you” to an unfair, oppressive and moronic system of government that, if this country were truly a democracy,



would be outvoted and overrun in most respects... and certainly when it comes to the War on Drugs.

But these secret allies of ours, growing stealthily in their homes, are waiting in the wings and constitute this movement's secret weapon. Because, you see, they represent not only a hidden majority, but also the reason we can never lose and why good herb will never be vanquished. If every stoner grew marijuana at home, it would require at least as many law-enforcement schmucks to bust us all—which is clearly impos-

sible—and would supply more than enough nuggets to meet the free-market demand. When you boil it all down, home growing is why the ignorant can never win. So here's to you, home-growing buddy: Keep up the good work!

In case you're wondering exactly how we're celebrating home growers and their courage in this issue (other than with a clever cover design): We've dropped a heavy lineup of articles on small indoor grows in these pages. Danny Danko gets beginners growing now with everything a first-timer needs to know, and the original ganja guru, Mel Frank, returns with one of his best pieces yet on home breeding. If you thought gardening for buds was a fun hobby, wait 'til you try growing for seeds—seeds for new strains of your own creation!

And in addition to home growing (sorry, I tend to have a one-track mind sometimes), this issue is filled with an assortment of articles that's sure to please everyone from the casual enthusiast to those ready to jump into the trenches. Paul Krassner weighs in on the Occupy Wall Street movement, and Paul Armentano offers a breakdown of the current political scene. Meanwhile, this issue's HIGH TIMES Interview features *Entourage's* Jeremy Piven talking pot—and, as usual, there're a few nice bud shots thrown in as well. So enjoy your read—and please, whatever you do, think hard about life and never stop fighting for what's right.

Grow and help the world grow, too!

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CONCENTRATE
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Come Back to Michigan

Thank you so much for putting on the Michigan Medical Cannabis Cup. As you were able to discern for yourself, we are going through some turmoil here. There were some skeptics, but the post-Cup response has been very positive.

If this event is destined to return next year, rest assured that the Michigan Association of Compassion Clubs (MACC), myself and many others will offer our assistance. We can certainly help to garner more interest, create a less resistant and restrictive atmosphere, and do so feeling comfortable with the intentions and level of professionalism that you and your magazine brought to our state.

There was a foundation built over the Cup weekend that can be the basis for future success. Thanks again for your interest in and reporting on the conditions here in Michigan. —*Jamie Lowell, President, MACC*

High Praise

Greetings! I've been a fan of HIGH TIMES for over four years and enjoy every aspect of cannabis culture and activism. I especially enjoy sitting down with Starfish (my bowl) and flipping through HIGH TIMES magazines any time of the day. I understand cannabis is a category unto itself and should be highly respected. These are some great articles! Thanks for all the years of enjoyment! —*G.A.*

Just sending a thumbs-up—a big green one! You guys do a great job of keeping me informed monthly, and I've got several successful grows under my belt thanks to your insight. Anyway, I was hoping you could write an article on how we can talk to our children about medical marijuana. I have a two-month-old and want to inform him one day—without being the “irresponsible” parent—about the truth of this plant. Any information you can give us readers would certainly be helpful. The children are our future, so I figure that if we teach them properly about this great plant, we can really watch this thing grow! —*Chad*

We recommend *The Parents' Guide to Marijuana* by Dr. Mitch Earleywine, one of our regular columnists.

Job Application

I don't want to take up too much of your time, but here's the deal: I'm not just some guy that wants to smoke really, really good weed—I believe in the culture



“Just sending a thumbs-up—a big green one! You guys do a great job of keeping me informed monthly, and I've got several successful grows under my belt.”

and everything you stand for and what you're trying to do, especially with *Free Weed Radio*, hosted by HT senior cultivation editor Danny Danko. I just want to be taken under your wing and work with you (or for you). If there's anything I can do, I'll do it! And if I can't do it, I'll learn it! Just give me a chance, *please!* I won't let you down, Mr. Danko! —*CPP*

Responsible Commentary

I just wanted to tell you how surprised I was by the quality of the articles in your publication. They're well-written and easy to read, so kudos to you and your writers. That being said, maybe you can get the people who comment on the articles online to start writing something readable. I know you can't, *really*, but irresponsible comments make everyone involved with pot look bad. —*DB*

Chef Du Cannabis

I'm a pastry chef and want to know who to contact to get involved in the edibles field of the cannabis industry. If you have any suggestions, please fill me in! —*Chef Tex*

The great thing about the cannabis industry is that anyone with talent and a strong work ethic can succeed. The first thing to do, obviously, is

to move to a medical-marijuana state (if you're not already in one). Next, check out the dispensary scene, and start building a business relationship with responsible dispensaries that can market your product. Good luck!

Living In Sin

I live in Nevada and want to start a petition for legalizing marijuana. How do I go about doing it? Everyone in Las Vegas smokes and cops don't really care. —*Marco*

Hook up with one of the two NORML chapters in your state. They'll point you in the right direction.

Really High

Have you ever had one of those highs where you put your soul completely into breaking up the weed, rolling it, and gently stroking it with your tongue to get it wet enough to stick perfectly? One of those highs where you just have to sit back and ponder the masterpiece you've created?

I'm talking about the kind of high that, once you touch the blunt to your lips, you inhale a state of elated bliss and an ecstasy that just runs through your body and when you exhale your problems drift away as if you never had them. These are the highs when, after you smoke, you don't want to move because you feel everything so differently. Every sound creates pleasurable vibrations and waves of movement running up and down your spine. These are the highs that, once you plug in your iPod, the world turns off, and you question whether your existence as a solitary human is just a convenient fiction hiding a much larger reality. Also, your music sounds beyond good. Perfect. Godly. Have you ever had one of those highs? —*ES*

Oddly enough, yes.

Buds Over Booze

Here's a simple fact—when I was in junior high school it was very easy to score weed and much harder to acquire booze. Not sure why, but just another argument to LEGALIZE it.

I don't need the government telling me what's right and what's wrong. —*THC*

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HO, HO, HO GREEN GIANT The jolly green giants of Camp Cool Farm flourish in the outdoor sunshine of northern California. Curious as to how exactly one grows monster plants that yield 10+ pounds? Check out our outdoor cultivation story, "The Gold Standard," on page 72 for the details...but we warn you, it certainly isn't easy!









March 2012 *High Times*

MASS MEDITATION Before the NYPD ousted the Occupy Wall Street encampment from New York City's Zuccotti Park, it was the habit of protesters to hold a daily meditation circle; sometimes twice a day—with yoga. Luminaries such as Russell Simmons and Deepak Chopra dropped in to lead these meditations. This particular session was held prior to a march on City Hall in early October in order to clarify protesters' intentions for a peaceful, successful rally.

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SOUR DIESEL VI
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SOUR OG KUSH
(First place Hybrid winner)

OBAMANATOR
(First place *Sativa* winner)

**CREAMA
(SWEET RELIEF)**
Third place Hybrid winner



BEHOLD, THE WINNERS! HIGH TIMES held its first ever Medical Cannabis Cup in Detroit, Michigan with some really strong contenders wowing us with completely new and unique strains we had never seen! The Obamanator, a 100 percent *sativa* from New World Seeds, was created from two pure land-race *sativas*—one from Kenya and the other from Hawaii. Too bad Obama himself hasn't been as big a help to patients as this fine medicine has! For more Michigan coverage, see page 21.

Contact
High

GALAXY GOD BUD
(Second place Hybrid winner)



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Clockwise from left: Sgt. "Buzzkill" Kowalski of the Detroit Police on the case; Some vendors surreptitiously displayed their wares.

MOTOWN MADNESS

Heavy police presence at the first-ever HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Michigan threatened to kill everyone's buzz.



At high noon on October 15, the doors of Bert's Warehouse Theater in Detroit swung open, and Michigan's marijuana community eagerly filed in for a two-day expo and awards show planned for the weekend. HIGH TIMES had already been in the city for a week in order to accept strain entries from Michigan's top caregivers. The magazine's Cultivation Department had installed a panel of expert judges to sample the best medical-marijuana strains in the state. The pot public was looking forward to a major confluence of expert growers, industry experts and, of course, new varieties to sample.



George Clinton and friends sniff out some of Detroit's finest kush.

Unfortunately, also waiting at the door that day was a contingent of Detroit cops, who threatened to shut down the event if cannabis were displayed or smoked.

The warnings had already begun to fly in the days prior to the event. "It's against the law in Michigan to use marijuana in a public place," announced Maria Miller, the spokeswoman for the Wayne County prosecutor's office.

"This is true even if you are the holder of



Comic Rob Cantrell opened the awards show on Sunday night. Below: Glass artists created killer pipes on-site.

One-hitters that had remained in pockets throughout the weekend were suddenly put to good use.

completely redefine Michigan's medical-marijuana law and outlaw the state's dispensaries—and it may take the courts to unravel the mess. So perhaps the extreme interest in the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup on the part of law enforcement was mere “collateral damage.”

But rest assured, there was no disruption. The booths at the expo did a brisk business, and in a variety of seminars, leaders of the state's activist community discussed their battle plans to take back what state voters have overwhelmingly approved.

On Saturday night, crowds flocked to the edge of the city for a concert featuring Royce da 5'9" and the 420 Funk Mob. But the biggest draw was the Funkmaster himself, George Clinton. Sponsored by Jungle



« a medical marijuana card. We would caution the public attending this event to be mindful of the law, because it will be enforced without exception.”

Detroit Assistant Police Chief Chester Logan added: “We will be monitoring this, and all laws will be enforced.”

The event absorbed the body blow and went forward, but the HT staff was now faced with the unpleasant task of asking attendees and vendors to keep their medicine under wraps.

Certainly, this was a case of no good deed going unpunished. HIGH TIMES had its choice of Michigan cities that would have been far more receptive to a cannabis-themed event. But in order to show good faith, the event was mounted in Detroit, a city desperately in need of economic revitalization.

To see as many as nine cops at a time swaggering through a peaceful trade expo causes one to wonder: In a city with a notoriously high crime rate, were four visits by the Detroit police really necessary? And once cannabis was removed from the expo, was it truly necessary, as a final salvo, to enforce a minor city ordinance against selling pipes by deploying four cops in flak jackets?

Ironically, the cops' final sweep of the

expo coincided with the beginning of the “Legal Issues” seminar. They were invited to stay but declined, and exited the venue amid raucous cheers.

Oh, and about that ordinance: When one Sergeant Kowalski of the Detroit PD approached the purveyors of the Incredibowl and asked if they were for sale, the plucky cannapreneurs responded with a firm “no” and began throwing free pipes into the crowd (youtube.com/watch?v=c0DSDRSg4). Sergeant Kowalski was not amused, and a summons was issued.

Thankfully, no arrests were made throughout the weekend, but the HIGH TIMES staff was certainly as disappointed as the judges. Recent

Medical Cannabis Cup events in Denver and San Francisco have been both responsible and wildly successful, and the legal cannabis use in restricted areas was of no concern to city officials.

In Detroit, the magazine was expecting no less. Unfortunately, a concerted effort has been made on the part of State Attorney General Bill Schuette to

Room of Birmingham, MI, Clinton signed on for the show at the eleventh hour and, not surprisingly, rocked the house. Needless to say, his affinity for the conspicuous onstage consumption of Great Lakes reefer inspired his performance.

On Sunday night, comic Rob Cantrell hosted the Medical Cannabis Cup Awards and fractured the audience's funnybone with his offbeat insights into the world of stonerdom. No cops were on hand for the awards show, so the one-hitters that had remained in pockets throughout the weekend were suddenly put to good use—which accounted for

the sweet scent wafting across the stage as the winners received their Cups.

In the end, the efforts of HIGH TIMES in Michigan were by no means diminished in any significant way. Among the vibrant cannabis community in this state, there's no shortage of energy or industry. The magazine's commitment to future events, is rock solid, and despite the warnings and ultimatums, the notion of canceling the 2011 Michigan Medical Cannabis Cup was even never considered.

And it won't be next year, either. ✨

Top grower General Grant won Cups for indica and hybrid.



Watch the Incredibowl raid at hightimes.com/raid



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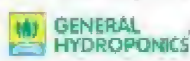


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Occupiers protest in front of New York City's Federal Building.

YIPPIES vs. OCCUPIERS

Technology changes the art of the protest.

By Paul Krassner

As a co-founder of the Yippies (Youth International Party)—best known for demonstrating against the Vietnam War at the 1968 Democratic convention in Chicago—I find myself comparing and contrasting our movement with Occupy Wall Street.

The Yippies had to perform stunts to get media coverage for our cause, so a group of us entered the New York Stock Exchange, went upstairs to the balcony and threw \$200 worth of singles onto the floor below, watching the gang of manic brokers suddenly morph from yelling “Pork bellies!” into “Diving for Dollars.” Then we held a press conference outside, explaining the connection between capitalism and the war.

These days, a particular Occupy Wall Street placard—“Wall Street Is War Street”—gives me a sense of continuity. Other anonymous OWS protesters have carried posters proclaiming “God Forbid We Have Sex & Smoke Pot,” “They Want Us to Grab Guns & Go to War!” and “I am an immigrant. I came here to take your job. But you don’t have one.”

By the sheer power of numbers and without the need for stunts, the Occupiers have broadened public awareness of the economic injustice perpetuated by corporations without compassion, conspiring with a corrupt government and resulting in immeasurable suffering.

NPR waited 11 days before reporting

the existence of Occupy Wall Street. The executive news editor explained this by saying that the occupation “did not involve large numbers of people” (actually, there were several hundred even in the early days), that no “prominent people” showed up (ignoring Michael Moore and Susan Sarandon), that it posed no “great disruption” to the city (the mass arrests on the Brooklyn Bridge and the cops pepper-spraying protesters “kettled” with orange netting finally met that need), and that it lacked “an especially clear objective” (unlike all those flip-floppy, pandering politicians whose clear objective is to get elected).

The Occupiers appear to be leaderless; Abbie Hoffman, Jerry Rubin and I served as spokesmen for the Yippies. We had media contacts and knew how to speak in sound bites. If we gave good quotes, they gave us free publicity for upcoming demonstrations. It was mutual manipulation.

During an interview with Abbie and me for the CBS Evening News, Abbie paraphrased Che Guevara: “I’m prepared to win or die.” But that comment never made it to the air. When the reporter asked me, “What do the Yippies actually plan to do in Chicago?,” I smiled at her and said, “You think I’m gonna tell *you*?”

As it turned out, that portion of my

answer was used to end Walter Cronkite’s piece on Yippies, but my follow-up sentence—“The first thing we’re gonna do is put truth serum in the reporters’ drinks”—was cut. I was beaten at my own game.

Inspired by the Yippies’ nomination of a pig for president, Michael Dare tried unsuccessfully to persuade his fellow protesters at Occupy Seattle to carry out his notion that, “if corporations are people, let’s run one for president.” I offered myself as Secretary of Greed.

The evolution of technology has changed the way protests are organized and carried out. The Yippies used messy mimeograph machines for flyers. They stuffed envelopes, addressed, stamped and mailed. The Internet enables Occupiers to inexpensively reach countless people immediately. When the Yippies were being tear-gassed and beaten sadistically and indiscriminately, we chanted, “The whole world is watching!” (A tactic the Occupiers have used as well.) But when a similar bloodbath was expected after the New York police decided to force the Occupiers out of the Zuccotti Park—and then reversed that decision—Michael Moore asked a cop, “Why don’t you think the eviction happened?”

The reply: “Because the mayor’s afraid of YouTube.”

The Yippies were a countercultural force, an amalgam of stoned hippies and straight politicians. Occupiers are essentially mainstream, but their demonization by right-wing media pund-nuts has provided a replay performance of the Dinosaur Follies. Bill O’Reilly dismissed the Occupiers as “violent, America-hating anarchists.” Ann Coulter referred to them as mobs of “tattooed, body-pierced, sunken-chested 19-year-olds getting in

fight with the police for fun.” Glenn Beck warned that they “will drag you into the streets and kill you.” Rush Limbaugh described them as “dumbed-down” and “propagandized” and asked a

rhetorical question reeking with layers of irony: “Whatever happened to the sixties’ ‘Question Authority?’”

(At this point, Limbaugh is like a castrated canine still busy humping the living-room sofa by force of habit.)

I’ll conclude here with a little gift for the infamous 1%, in the form of what could eventually become a riddle for reactionaries.

Q: “What do corporations and fetuses have in common?”

A: “They’re both persons.” ✨

“The first thing we’re gonna do is put truth serum in the reporters’ drinks.”

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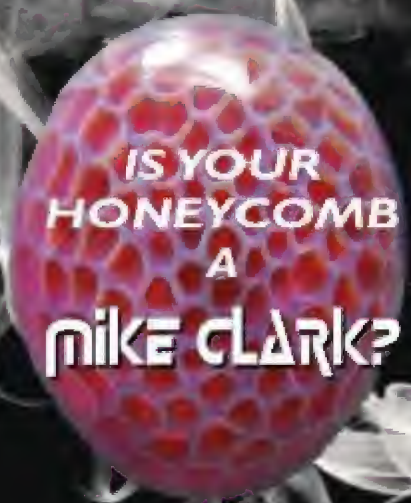
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CANNABIS SMACKDOWN!

2011: The Year the Drug Warriors Struck Back

by Paul Armentano

*"FIRST THEY IGNORE YOU,
THEN THEY LAUGH AT YOU,
THEN THEY FIGHT YOU,
THEN YOU WIN."*

—Mahatma Gandhi

It should be obvious to marijuana-law reform advocates that 2011 was the year the government decided to fight back—and fight back with a vengeance. By year's end, it was apparent that President Barack Obama's campaign pledge to respect state medical-marijuana laws had become ancient history. Instead, that now-empty promise was replaced by a multi-agency, full-court press intended to create a climate of fear and prosecution

regarding the use, production and distribution of marijuana, particularly medical cannabis.

Obama's role reversal from cannabis sympathizer to White House weed whacker took many in the reform community by surprise, but it shouldn't have: In many ways, the administration's anti-pot efforts were as predictable as they are disheartening.

Keep in mind that, as a movement, we've been here before. In the late 1970s, following the passage of legislation decriminalizing pot possession in a dozen states, many drug-law reformers predicted that the full-scale legalization of cannabis for adults was just around the corner. It wasn't. Instead, advocates experienced a decade-long political

backlash in the 1980s, during which time years of cannabis progress were wiped out by the launch of a renewed, all-out War on Drugs.

The seeds for the 2011 medical-marijuana pushback were planted in the November 2010 elections. Specifically, the defeat of three highly publicized statewide reform measures—California's Proposition 19 to legalize, tax and regulate adult cannabis use; Oregon's Measure 74 to authorize state-licensed medical-pot dispensaries; and South Dakota's Measure 13 to allow the herb's limited medicinal use—represented a smackdown at the ballot box the likes of which our movement has rarely expe-

Between 2009 and 2011, the number of state-authorized marijuana consumers had swelled to well over one million nationally.

rienced in recent years, and one that doubtlessly emboldened our prohibitionist opponents. In addition, the GOP wave that swept through Congress and several state legislatures—in particular, those of formerly med-pot-friendly states like Montana, Michigan and New Mexico—elevated to high office anti-pot crusaders such as Michigan Attorney General Bill Schuette, New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez and Texas Congressman Lamar Smith (a longtime Drug War hawk who became the Judiciary Committee's chairman following the Republicans' 2010 takeover of the House of Representatives). Having gained newfound power in the fall of 2010, it's hardly surprising that these pot prohibitionists sought to engage in a show of force in 2011.

Unlike past years, however, the drug warriors in 2011 had an array of new and unconventional targets to choose from. Why? Because of the unparalleled gains that marijuana advocates had achieved to legitimize the use of medical cannabis and the industry surrounding it. Between 2009 and 2011, the number of state-authorized marijuana consumers had swelled to well over one million nationally. The total number of locally licensed dispensaries also grew exponentially, with more than 1,000 state-authorized facilities in Colorado alone. As a result, the Obama administration, unlike the Bush and Clinton administrations, chose to target the institutions that enabled this nascent industry to thrive—such as med-pot-friendly banks

and dispensary landlords as well as the proprietors themselves—rather than the individual patients they served. By late 2011, even the IRS had joined the battle, auditing several large taxpaying dispensaries, denying their operators the use of standard business deductions, and then demanding millions of dollars in allegedly unpaid taxes.

And that wasn't all. In October, representatives from the four US Attorney's offices in California publicly threatened to prosecute any medical marijuana grower or dispensary operator who profited financially from their activities. Speaking to the Huffington Post, a spokesperson for US Attorney Andre Birotte alleged that the president himself hadn't instigated this latest round of Justice Department threats, claiming instead that it was the "collective decision" of federal prosecutors themselves.

The claim may have some legitimacy: By the fall of 2011, a sagging economy had severely weakened Obama's power, even within his own administration. With a re-election battle on the horizon, it likely became obvious to Drug War hardliners within the federal government that the president would not be spending a shred of political capital to halt a federally initiated cannabis crackdown.

Meanwhile, US Attorney General Eric Holder, who had previously echoed his boss's sentiments not to interfere with state marijuana laws, was fighting for his own political survival, embroiled in a scandal over the Justice Department's failed "Fast and Furious" gun-running sting in Mexico. If ever there was an ideal time for the reefer madmen to take over the asylum, this was it.

"Holder has lost control of the Justice Department," asserts Eric Sterling, the president of the Criminal Justice Policy Institute in Washington, DC. "And Obama has concluded that with crime down generally, he needs to pay little attention to [what] the Justice Department [is doing]."

But while it may be convenient to

"Political winds can change quickly. We have to make our progress while we have that political support, and not presume it will necessarily get easier down the road."

parallel the present federal crackdown with that of the 1980s, there are two core differences between now and then. First, the climate of public tolerance for or even outright approval of marijuana these days is far beyond what it was three decades ago. Whereas reducing minor marijuana possession to a fine-only offense in a handful of states highlighted the extent of movement's gains in the 1970s, today's victories include legitimizing the public sale and state-sanctioned use of cannabis by over a million legal consumers. And while it's possible that federal sanctions and threats may temporarily succeed in contracting the size and presence of the industry, it is much harder to believe that any government efforts—no matter how severe—will ever succeed in delegitimizing cannabis as a mainstay of modern society. The ganja genie is out of the bottle, and it isn't going back in.

Secondly, the public's support for the broader legalization of cannabis for all adults is now more than twice what it was at the height of the 1970s. And that support is growing. Fact: In 1979, only one in four Americans supported the notion of legalizing pot, while a daunting 70 percent at the time still favored the policy of criminal prohibition. Today, public opinion data tell a much different story. Gallup polls indicate that 2011 marked the first time in our nation's history when the percentage of Americans in favor of legalizing pot (50 percent) was greater than those who favor keeping it illegal (46 percent).

This change in public opinion has been a rapid one, increasing 14 percentage points from 2005 alone. More importantly, cannabis's growing public support is widespread: More Americans of every

age, political persuasion and region of the country back legalizing weed today than they did just six years ago. If the present polling trends continue—and there's no reason to believe

they won't—Americans' enthusiasm for outright legalization will reach super-majority status in less than a decade.

Says NORML founder Keith Stroup: "As the Gallup poll confirms, we are continuing to win the hearts and minds of the American people. The federal government's sudden intervention has virtually no public support."

Even so, Stroup issues a note of caution: "Political winds can change quickly. We have to make our progress while we have that political support, and not presume it will get easier down the road."

Despite the government's recent anti-pot efforts, it's easy to overlook the fact that advocates in 2011 achieved several significant victories, most of which pertained to the personal use of cannabis for all adults, not just patients. Arkansas, California, Connecticut and Kentucky enacted new laws in 2011 significantly lowering penalties for pot use and possession. In California and Connecticut, lawmakers made such activities non-criminal, non-arrestable offenses—the first time since 1977 that lawmakers in any state moved to fully decriminalize marijuana possession.

And therein lies the rub: Public and political support for full legalization is rapidly moving forward. Statewide initiative efforts to legalize and regulate the use of cannabis may qualify for the ballot in Colorado and Washington, and regional polling data show that majorities of the voting public back them. More nascent statewide legalization efforts in California, Nebraska, Oregon and elsewhere are ongoing, suggesting that 2012 may prove to be one of the most landmark years for cannabis liberation ever. So where do we go from here? Forward. And then we win. ✨

BRIEFS

Mexico's Prohibition Failure

➤ Mexico's harvest has doubled in the past five years, especially in

the Sierra Madre mountain range. Since 2006, the Mexican soldiers who had previously slashed and burned illegal crops have been gradually redeployed. Now, President Felipe Calderón is sending the military into metro areas

to battle the ruthless and heavily armed drug cartels that are terrorizing the country. The result? In 2005, more than 77,000 acres of pot were destroyed; in 2010, that figure dropped to only 43,000 acres. And with bigger harvests has come

more pot smuggling: Seizures at the U.S.-Mexican border increased from 1 million kilograms of weed in '06 to 1.5 million kilos in '10. So much for DEA Administrator Michele Leonhart's claim that the appalling bloodshed in Mexico is

a "sign of success" in the War on Drugs.

One more thing: Poppy production has soared to record levels in the Sierra Madre. In fact, Mexico is now the No. 2 exporter of heroin in the world, second only to Afghanistan.

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STRAIN OF THE MONTH

CANNATONIC X

One of the original high-CBD strains—created overseas in breeding projects in Amsterdam and Spain—finally gets the credit it deserves here in the US. Cannatonic X, a phenotype of the original Cannatonic line, took home top honors at the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Detroit. Testing at 12.3% cannabidiol, Cannatonic X won the CBD Award as the best medicinal strain at the Cup. A cross between MK-Ultra from T.H.Seeds and the legendary G-13 Haze (both developed in Holland), this winning entry was grown by the GLCCC group from seed. She finished in 71 days and was grown indoors and organically.

There are reports of the Cannatonic strain testing at even higher levels of CBD (sometimes approaching 20%), and patients have long raved about its medicinal effects and benefits. Projects are currently underway in Spain, the Netherlands and the US to develop a 50/50 ratio of THC and CBD in the strain, which would certainly result in one of the strongest herbal medicines in the world!



TRIUMPH IN 'ZONA

Arizona voters legalized medical pot a year ago. In November, Elements Caregiver Collective opened in Phoenix, and attracted a crowd of thousands, including patients, growers and activists.

MEDICAL BRIEFS

Evil Advertising

➤ If the federal government conducted the War on Terror with the same multi-pronged ferocity that it's displayed going after medical marijuana, maybe we'd have gotten out of Iraq and Afghanistan a lot sooner.

As reported by California Watch, US Attorney Laura E. Duffy, one of four federal prosecutors in the Golden State, recently announced that medical marijuana advertising in her district (including San Diego) will be the next area of canna-business to be targeted by her office, including any newspapers, magazines, TV and radio stations, and even online providers that run pot ads.

Despite medical cannabis's well-known legality in California, it's against federal law to advertise the sale of Schedule I drugs—which includes pot. Duffy said her first step will be to notify those running the "illegal" ads that they're breaking the law. She noted ominously that the federal government has the power to seize property and prosecute violators

in both civil and criminal court, with first-time offenders facing up to four years in prison.

If Duffy gets her way, people with a doctor's recommendation to use medical cannabis will have to rely on word of mouth—or perhaps smoke signals—to find a local dispensary.

Ecstasy vs. Cancer

➤ A molecularly modified version of MDMA—a.k.a. Ecstasy—has been found to kill certain types of blood-cancer (lymphoma) cells in test-tube research conducted at the University of Birmingham (UK) and the University of Western Australia. The MDMA analog was created via the addition of phenyl-group molecules and was specifically tested on a rare B-cell cancer, the nasty Burkitt's lymphoma, which aggressively attacks bone marrow.

Scientists have known since 2006 that Ecstasy destroys lymphoma cells (as do antidepressants like Prozac), but the newly altered MDMA increased this cancer-killing effectiveness 100-fold, with researchers postulating that the drug hones in on the fat of the lymphoma-cell membranes, breaking them down. Animal research and clinical trials must be still conducted before the drug can be

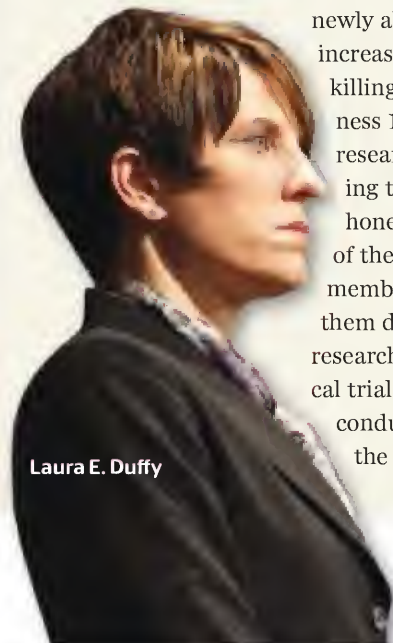
prescribed to humans, and scientists plan to modify the molecule even further to more precisely increase its effectiveness.

Cannabis Relief for Crohn's

➤ Crohn's Disease is a serious inflammatory bowel illness afflicting millions worldwide with nasty symptoms like persistent diarrhea and severe abdominal pain. Crohn's patients have used pot for years to better manage their malady, but now formal research being conducted in Israel has linked cannabis to a reduction in Crohn's symptoms and to less

Crohn's-related surgeries needing to be performed. As reported in the *Journal of the Israeli Medical Association*, researchers at the Meir Medical Center in Tel Aviv studied 30 Crohn's patients before and after cannabis use and found that 21 of the participants displayed "significant improvement," and that all of the patients reported a positive effect on their Crohn's symptoms.

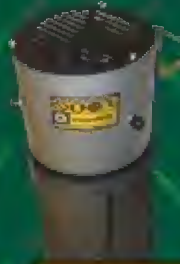
There was also a "significant reduction" in the other medication patients needed—and even more significantly, only two of the patients required surgery during a three-year average period of using cannabis. Previously, 15 of the subjects had required surgery over an average nine-year span.



Laura E. Duffy



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OF THE MONTH:

Wyllys and the New York Hustler Ensemble

Wyllys and the New York Hustler Ensemble

is a nu-disco re-edit machine. Featuring Wyllys on the turntables and Jennifer Hartwick and Natalie Cressman of the Trey Anastasio Band on horns and vocals, this professionally trained group of groove enthusiasts delivers every time they step on stage. Each set is completely different from the last and contains spirited and well-executed improvisation in addition to a well-planned mix of the hottest tracks.

The band is currently working on its debut LP, which promises to be an indie-rock-infused nu-disco explosion the likes of which no one has ever heard before. If you love a continuous groove rooted in the soul of



dance music, Wyllys and the New York Hustler Ensemble will take your dance-floor experience to the next level...always!

For more info on the band, including audio samples and tour dates, check out hightimes.com/wyllysandthenewyorkhustlerensemble.



Rugz luvz nugz.

RUGZ ON DRUGS

Hailing from Harlem, the hip-hop MC known as Rugz D. Bewler sits down with HIGH TIMES to talk about moms, marijuana and making music.

He burst onto the scene with his 2010 mix-tape, *Bewler's Day Off*. Later that same year, he released *Save Bewler: The Memoirs of Muhammad Mc'Fly*, and followed that up with *By Any Means Necessary* in 2011. With songs like "Window Wavin" with Curren\$y and "White Paper & Women (Pass Dat Shhh)" featuring Smoke DZA and Terri Walker, Rugz D. Bewler wears his marijuana smoking habits on his sleeve.

With a throwback vocal sound reminiscent of the golden era of hip-hop, Rugz' rhymes and production are easy on the ears and filled with powerful insights among the playful wordplay. You might also recognize him as the talented actor who played "Kenzo" in the motion picture *Finding Forrester*. His linking up with former Roc-A-Fella CEO Damon Dash led to a meeting with renowned producer Ski Beatz—and the rest was history.

Asked about his first experiences with

marijuana, Rugz laughs, "I started out by taking my mom's doobage. She's gonna kill me if she reads this but it's the truth. We hid around and took drags but it wasn't like how we're getting high these days. Like, we had to ask each other if we could feel it or not. Later on I started smoking my own shit. Uptown we got Haze, then Sour Diesel came out and boom! New York has always had great herbs."

As for marijuana playing a role in his creative process,

Rugz says he can smoke up to a quarter of an ounce per studio song session. "Weed brings happiness. So the average person that smokes weed is gonna listen to music that caters to it, so they're gonna be some happy people listening to my joints." He continues, "When I'm high, I try to listen to my music like a fan would hear it. When I'm in the studio I always have the three "W"s; weed, water and women." *Danny Danko*

Find more info at rugzdbewler.com.



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THE SOUND OF THUNDER

The eclectic roar of Stephen 'Thundercat' Bruner.

A Native American headdress. An old skateboard in the corner. Piles of vinyl and anime DVDs. Stephen "Thundercat" Bruner has accumulated a lot of interesting stuff over one lifetime, and he's similarly bridged many disparate musical traditions over his years as a session

bassist for Suicidal Tendencies, Erykah Badu, George Duke, John McLaughlin, Snoop Dogg and brother-from-another-mother Flying Lotus. But it all finally comes together on his debut LP, *The Golden Age of Apocalypse* (Brainfeeder), after literally years in the making.

INTERVIEW

Jason Goldwatch's Trip

Known for the exotic locales of his music videos, which practically drip with trippy imagery, director Jason Goldwatch stopped by the HIGH TIMES office to discuss his love of pot, psychedelics, and pushing the artistic and spiritual envelope. He's shot videos for Jay-Z and Kid Cudi as well as being the co-founder and executive creative director

of the music label (and then some) Decon. His latest projects include Team Ice Cream Vol. 1, a skate video for Pharell's skateboard team; a feature film, *A Million in the Morning*, with ex-Vice editor Gavin McInnes; and videos for Jay Electronica's "Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)" and Pusha T and Tyler the Creator's "Trouble On My Mind."

Does marijuana play a role in your artistic process?

Of course! And I think most intelligent people have come



to understand that we're still evolving. The benefits of this plant are still being discovered, and I think it's our personal duty to explore this infinite state that we're in. So, yeah, drugs are part of my trip—the medicinal regimen that I'm on, the spiritual journey.

So you're into psychedelics, too?

Oh, yeah—I mean, check out the videos. When I put those out, I'm like, "Check this out! Trip out! This shit is a psychedelic right now!"

You directed the notorious "Worst Comes to Worst" video for Dilated Peoples at the World Trade Center just days before 9/11, right?

Yeah, and I remember looking around and thinking to myself, "Just be in this moment now, because you will remember this forever." That was September 7, 2001. That shit fucked me up.

What can you tell us about the legendary "Blueberry Yum Yum" video with

Ludacris? Plenty of times, we've seen artists smoking weed in videos, but very rarely are they shot in a massive, warehouse-sized growroom.

That was on a run that we made over to Amsterdam. The funny thing is, it was even bigger—there were more rooms we didn't shoot in. And the grower was this crazy European guy—I wanted him to come out in a ski mask, and he wouldn't do it unless he could show his face. I ended up doing it...but it was a fun time, for sure.

Any parting words for High Times readers?

Push further. *Danny Danko*

Indeed, one can immediately tag Stephen as the kind of guy who can't throw anything away. "George Duke heard it yesterday, and he was like, 'Man, this is a collage,'" Thundercat recalls. "[Since] it accumulated over years, for him to see it immediately was kind of cool. But that's what it is: a collage of sound."

Although a jazz player at heart, Stephen has many different musical mistresses.

Although a jazz player at heart, Stephen has many different musical mistresses, from anime soundtracks to hip-hop to electronica to punk. As a result, tracks like the sunny retro-funk of "Walking" and the dreamy reinterpretation of George Duke's "For Love I Come" open up plenty of adventurous, psychedelic aural panoramas for the cannabis-inclined listener.

Unfortunately, Thundercat can't go there with them. Flying Lotus shares this anecdote from a failed session: "I offered him some trees, and he got so high, he couldn't get through his take. He's like, 'Man, my teeth are itching!' 'What?!' 'Yeah, it's so weird! Like, they're itching.' I swore never to offer him weed after that, because we couldn't get anything done. He just ate all my ice cream and passed out."

Thundercat shrugs it off, acknowledging weed as a valuable tool for those who can actually use it. "Stevie Wonder got high and wrote some of his greatest music," he notes. *Justin Hampton*

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420



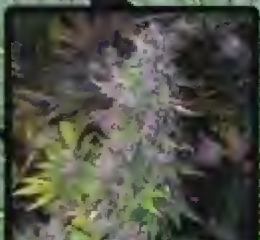
Lady Liberty



GSPOT



Burmese



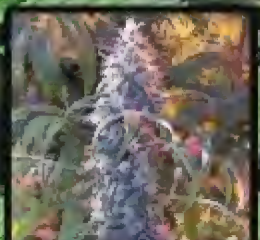
Blackberry



Gold



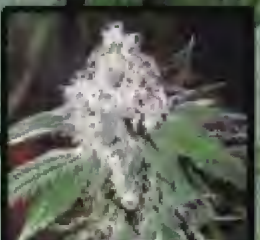
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British Columbian



Kat

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FUCKING INCREDIBLE! High Times Top 10 Strains 2008

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The Legend of the BURMESE See High Times January 2009

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GSPOT High Times Top 10 Strains of 2009

Read about VISC's Induction into The Seed Bank HALL OF FAME in the August 2009 issue of High Times

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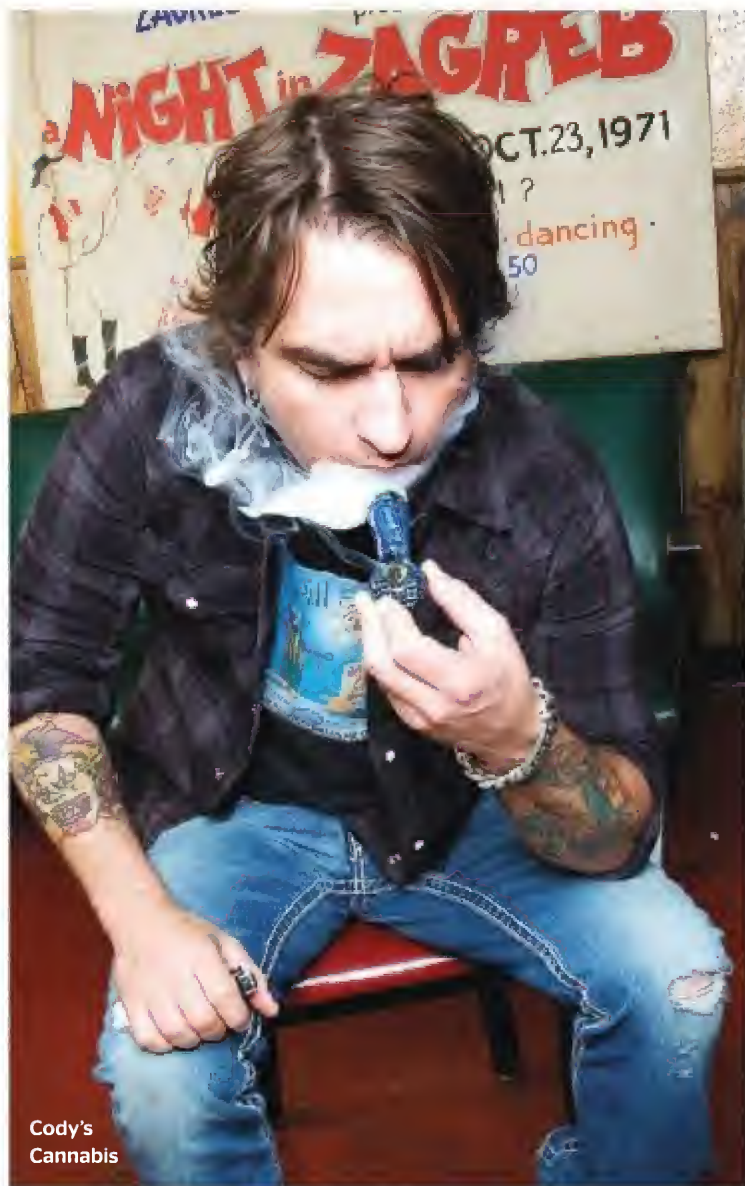
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Cody's Cannabis

SWEET HOME MARIJUANA

Cody Canada shows that those Red Dirt cats know their green.

“Them boys from Oklahoma roll their joints all wrong, / They’re too damn skinny or way too long”: So begins “Boys From Oklahoma,” a song by singer Cody Canada’s first band, Cross Canadian Ragweed, now defunct. It goes on to slag Kansas weed (“I got some [weed] in my guitar case and I’m not the type to brag / But it’s a damn sight better than that Kansanian schwag”) and herald Louisiana, where, though the gators eat all the seeds, “On a bayou night by the light of

a full moon / You can walk out and pick you a sack full of ‘shrooms.”

Canada was first moved to start writing music thanks to a place on the Stillwater, OK, scene called “The Farm,” where area songwriters and musicians hung out, partied and played for each other. It so inspired him that Canada, Jason Boland and Stoney LaRue created their own songwriters’ refuge, known as the “Yellow House.”

All three are now icons of the burgeoning Texas–Red

Dirt scene. The sound’s a bit hard to define—a blend of outlaw, Texas country, honky-tonk, jam band improvisation, folk and rock whose balance varies widely from band to band. What unites them all is a stoners’ sense of camaraderie and the willingness to help each other out, frequently sharing the stage whatever their particular sound.

It’s a spirit that remains even though Cross Canadian Ragweed has moved on. Canada started a new band, Cody Canada and the Departed, with Cross Canadian Ragweed bassist Jeremy Plato. Their first album, *This Is Indian Land*, is a collection of songs by those early-’90s Red Dirt songwriters.

“That was the perfect vehicle for the Departed, instead of rushing an album and getting it out and then thinking, ‘I wish we’d written *this* line or played *that* differently,” Canada says from his New Braunfels, TX, home. “We knew what to do with these songs, because it’s much easier to recreate somebody else’s work and maybe put your stamp on it than it is to rush your own stuff.”

While they don’t perform “Boys From Oklahoma” anymore, they do pull out a handful of vintage Cross Canadian Ragweed tunes, including “51 Pieces,” about the time their bus was raided by Cleveland cops. It happened several years ago, shortly after the band pulled out of the House of Blues parking lot early one morning. The cops stopped the bus and entered it with guns drawn, and when Ragsdale complained that his rights were being violated, he was thrown in the back of a squad car. Canada’s entreaties also fell on deaf ears.

Canada actually received his first vaporizer from none other than Willie Nelson.

“I said, ‘I’m going to tell you right now: You’re going to find pot—and that’s it,’” he recalls. “And not enough for us to go to jail, I promise, because we’re out.’ We sat outside by the side of the road, and one cop lipped off: ‘We’re the guys that pulled over Snoop Dogg!’ So they come off the bus with two trash bags, and it was all pipes, and that cop was laughing his ass off: ‘There’s 10 of you guys on this bus, and I counted 51 pieces of paraphernalia. Are you collectors?’ And I said, ‘No, dude, we’re potheads. We buy a pipe, we smoke out of it and we lose it, then buy another one.”

In the end, no one was charged, and the band were sent on their way minus the pipes—a rolling boon to the next headshop they came across. These days, you’ll find Canada and band using fewer pipes, since most of their smoking is done from a Volcano they’ve dubbed “Marge” because of the way the tall, vertical bag resembles the *Simpsons* character’s hair. Canada actually received his first vaporizer from none other than Willie Nelson, with whom they were touring near the Mexican border.

“At first, we thought that was really cool: ‘He just gave us a gift!’ But what he was doing was getting rid of it so he didn’t get checked by the Border Patrol,” Canada chuckles. He just hopes that his own luck will hold out better than Willie’s has lately.

Chris Parker



5 songs about pot by other Red Dirt artists

- ▶ Jason Boland & the Stragglers, “When I’m Stoned”
- ▶ Eleven Hundred Springs, “Get Through the Day”
- ▶ Brandon Jenkins, “Gideon’s Bible”
- ▶ Reckless Kelly, “Wiggles and Ritalin”
- ▶ Red Dirt Rangers/Stoney LaRue, “Idabel Blues”

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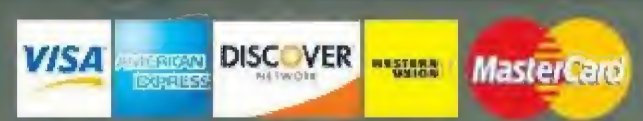
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Brian Wilson shows Van Dyke Parks the way to SMiLE.

BRIAN'S SONG

The most famous 'lost' album in rock'n'roll history is finally here.

Can an album be "perfect" if it's never been released? Such is the debate stirred by the Beach Boys' *SMiLE*, the mega-ambitious 1966-'67 concept album from BB visionary Brian Wilson and mercurial lyricist Van Dyke Parks, which was expected to be the ultimate musical statement of the psychedelic '60s. Conceived as a "teenage symphony to God," the LP was shelved for 44 years—until now, with Wilson granting the release of the vaulted, vaulted tapes.



SMiLE
The Beach Boys
(Capitol Records)

Consider this the definitive version of *SMiLE*—vastly superior to *Smiley Smile* (the half-assed compromise of late '67), outranking Wilson's critically acclaimed 2004 reconstruction.

SMiLE bursts ear to ear with a procession of mind-blowing epics, starting with the acid barbershop splendor of "Heroes and Villains," going beyond the "pocket symphony" production promised by album closer "Good Vibrations." "Do You Like Worms (Roll Plymouth Rock)" may be the LP's underrated masterpiece, while the sublime majesty of "Surf's Up" is the creative apex of the Wilson/Parks collaboration, with its dramatic orchestration and piano balladry as Van Dyke hits his lyrical apogee with "The music all is lost for now...to a muted trumpeter swan."

If you invest in the box, you'll get a hardcover book, artwork, liner notes and rare pics, a vinyl double LP and two 45 singles. The four bonus discs offer detailed breakdowns of the creation of the multi-part songs, Wilson-as-producer conducting the "Wrecking Crew" studio musicians, clowning banter and contributions from Brian's late brothers, Carl Wilson on "Tune X" and Dennis Wilson on "I Don't Know." While not perfect, this release leaves no doubt that *SMiLE* is one of the greatest albums in rock history...finally. *Mark Miller*

MUSIC REVIEWS



Mastodon
The Hunter
(Reprise)

The new album from Mastodon inspires stunned disbelief of the best kind. On their fifth full-length, they emerge sounding as focused and streamlined as they've ever been. It's not that they've necessarily changed their art-metal blend of pulverizing bottom-end crush,

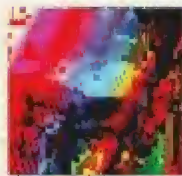
searing prog-inflected guitars and spacey expansiveness abutting brutal intensity. Far from it: They've simply titrated it down to a single brain-melting shot. The gruff griminess that colored the edges of their four prior albums has been polished down to slick locomotive steel. *Chris Parker*



The War on Drugs
Slave Ambient
(Secretly Canadian)

Hailing from Philadelphia, The War on Drugs definitely come down on the side of hazy, blissed-out shimmer. The band started out in 2005 as a quartet led by singers/guitarists Adam Granduciel and Kurt Vile, but that changed with Vile's departure in 2008 to pursue his solo career. (He has

since signed with Matador, where he's garnered significant underground buzz.) Slimmed down to a trio, the band's lo-fi Americana elements gave way to a more steadfastly psychedelic approach deeply informed by Paisley Underground pioneers The Dream Syndicate. *Chris Parker*



Caveman
CoCo Beware
(Magic Man! Records/
ORG Music)

Somewhere beyond Fleet Foxes and Grizzly Bear lie the mellowed-out mammals of Brooklyn's Caveman. There is much to contemplate on this gorgeous debut: the judicious use of psych rock ("Thankful"), the hint of tribalism ("Vampire"), the smart indie-pop choruses ("Old Friend"),

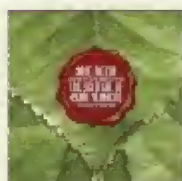
and the underlying roots rock that brings it all back down-to-earth. This is music made for stoners—and most of the fivesome are avowed devotees of weed. Besides, if songs like the sweeping, wistful "Decide" don't make you melt on impact, then probably nothing can. *Nisha Gopalan*



The Black Keys
El Camino
(Nonesuch Records)

This guitar-drum duo has been churning out thumping blues-rock for over a decade now. Scores of music supervisors have lapped up those riffs, which ultimately won the Black Keys' last album three Grammys. *El Camino* doesn't sate those follow-up expectations so much as

pleasantly confuse them. The quirk-pop sensibility of producer Danger Mouse can be found all over this melodic curiosity, which shimmers with tambourines and xylophones and cymbals. This twosome couldn't pen a bum tune if they tried; see the surf-rock "Lonely Boy" for proof. *Nisha Gopalan*



Mike Patton
The Solitude of Prime Numbers
(Ipecac Recordings)

Not only did Mike Patton create yet another excruciatingly beautiful album with 2010's *Mondo Cane*, but followed-up with an incredibly moving film score. The film, based on the international best-selling novel, *La Solitudine dei Numeri Primi* by Paolo Giordano, yanks on the heartstrings with its

story of lonesome Mattia and Alice, who can't seem to make their parallel lines intersect. Patton's music for this forlorn tale of unrequited love was composed in his usual eerie, operatic way—because no one can capture the feeling of heartache, want or longing like Mike Patton. *Natasha Lewin*

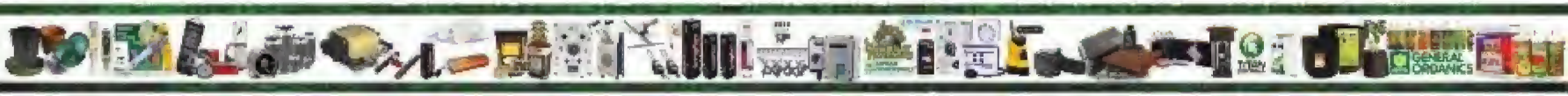
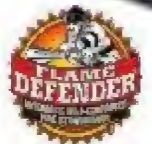
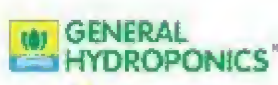


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Based on this successful model, HIGH TIMES has developed *420.com*—a site that allows its community to submit pot-centric news headlines that are then voted on by readers. This gives the 420 community a direct hand in the dissemination of marijuana-related news. What's exciting is that the same important pot stories the mainstream media has decided to play down—or ignore altogether—are made available in a single location for its audience.

At *420.com*, the community has the power, not some international media mogul with ties to the Bilderberg Group...or whatever. So, check us out at *420.com*. If you like what you see, get involved and sign up. Soon you'll be posting the headlines you think stoners all over the world should be reading, as well as voting on other important cannabis news.

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Last year, the Ithaca College chapter of SSDP worked hard to help assure the passage of the New York State 911 Good Samaritan Law, which allows any citizen to call for medical assistance during a drug or alcohol overdose without fear of being charged or prosecuted for drug possession. Now they are turning their efforts to lobbying the state government to pass its long delayed medical marijuana bill.

Learn more at hightimes.com/tags/ssdp

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MUNCHIES

SHEPHERD'S POT PIE

Comfort food for
stoners.

THERE ARE FEW dishes in this world as comforting and filling as shepherd's pie. When I was growing up, this family favorite tasted so good after a long, hard day working on the farm. Or at least that's what dad would say—I was a blatant chore deflector and would hide out with a book

and some drawing paper whenever I thought I could get away with it. Still, shepherd's pie *is* the best.

It didn't take long once I'd moved from what was once a small town in Oregon to the Big Apple's backyard (New Jersey) to figure out that the plethora of Irish pubs in New York City were a haven for savory shepherd's pie, proper pints and family-style hospitality. Win, win, win.

But I wouldn't be my mother's daughter if I couldn't whip up this meaty, potato-packed pie by myself. Being that it's my kitchen, I've naturally added a couple of modifications for my own specialized brand of comfort food.

This hearty meal is enough to fill up anyone from a spent farmer to a completely munchified stoner.

—Mary Ought Six

IRISH HIGH PIE

2 tbsp cannabis butter (using
¼ oz finely ground marijuana)
4 large russet potatoes,
peeled and cubed
¼ cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 large onion, chopped fine
(but separate out 1 tbsp)
1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
1 lb ground beef
4 large carrots, finely diced
1 cup flash-frozen peas
1 tbsp butter
2 tbsp flour
1 half-pint of Guinness stout
3 tbsp ketchup
2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
1 cup beef stock
1 egg, beaten
Salt and pepper to taste

the cannabis butter, the separate tablespoon of finely chopped onion and ¼ cup of shredded cheese. Season with salt and pepper to taste, then set aside.

Preheat the oven to 400°F. Sauté the carrots in the olive oil until a bit tender. Add the remaining onions and sauté for a minute or two. Add the meat and season with pepper. Cook until the meat is browned, then drain the fat. Add the non-medicated butter and peas. Sprinkle flour evenly over the mixture and stir.

Add the ketchup, Guinness and Worcestershire sauce. Feel free to enjoy the rest of the stout while cooking.

Let this reduce slightly, then add the beef stock. Once you have a thick, meaty gravy, season to taste and remove from heat. Grease a 9" x 13" oven-safe dish with butter and add the meat mixture.

Spoon or pipe the ganja potatoes over the top. Brush with the egg and sprinkle with a bit of extra shredded cheddar if desired.

Bake for about 20 minutes or until the potatoes are golden brown.

Stones 6-8.

Prepare the cannabis butter by melting two tablespoons of unsalted butter in a double boiler over low heat. Add the finely ground marijuana, stirring occasionally for 35 to 45 minutes. Strain the plant matter through cheesecloth and set aside.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add diced potatoes and cook until tender but not falling apart, around 15 minutes. Drain and mash. Mix in

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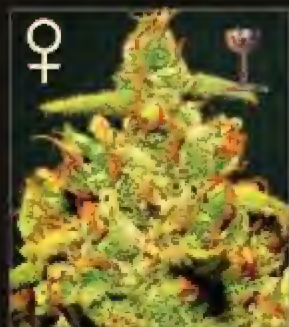


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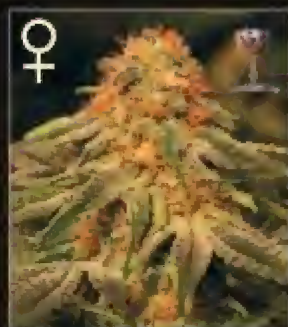
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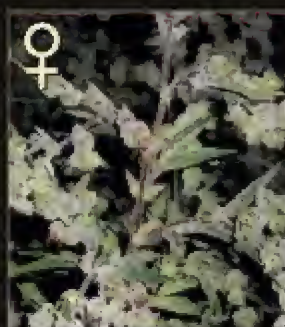
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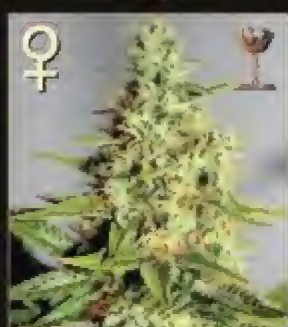
Amnesia Lemon



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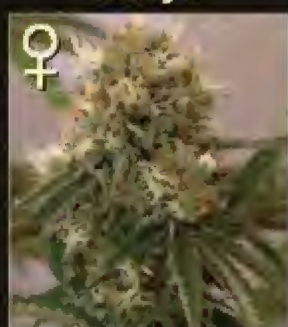
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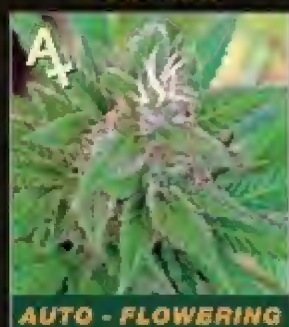
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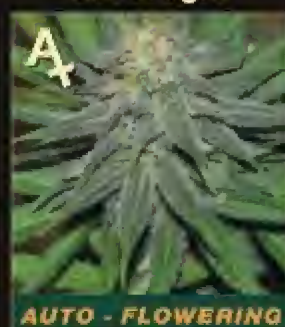
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(Chem Dog)
 "So stinky—beautiful buds, great high. Pricey, but worth it if you can swing it."
 New York, NY

(Jack Herer)
 "Grown locally. Some of the best stuff I've smoked. I think Jack would be proud."
 Boston, MA

TRANS HIGH MARKET QUOTATIONS

STATE	CITY	STRAIN	PRICE	
Arizona	Phoenix	Acapulco Gold	\$330	
		Bubblegum	330	
California	San Diego	Purple Bubba Kush	350	
	San Jose	Cherry Bomb	225	
	San Francisco	Querkle	250	
Colorado	Denver	Headband	360	
		AK-47	350	
		Kush	325	
Connecticut	New London	Cherry Widow	325	
		Sour Diesel	400	
Florida	Melbourne	Purple Kush	400	
Hawaii	Honolulu	Super Silver Haze	300	
		Oahu	Lemon Kush	320
Kentucky	Louisville	Strawberry Cough	275	
Maine	Portland	White Berry	400	
Massachusetts	Boston	Jack Herer	425	
Michigan	Detroit	Super Lemon Haze	375	
Minnesota	Minneapolis	Kandy Kush	400	
		Super Lemon Haze	400	
Montana	Missoula	Trainwreck	250	
Nevada	Las Vegas	Chem Dog	400	
New Jersey	Long Branch	Kush	420	
New York	Buffalo	Blueberry	320	
		Chem Dog	560	
		Sour Diesel	500	
		Strawberry Cough	470	
North Carolina	Raleigh	Bubblegum	500	
		Kush	480	
Ohio	Dayton	Huber Heights	360	
		Sour Diesel	360	
		Lemon Drop	350	
Oregon	Eagle Creek	C-99	240	
Pennsylvania	Pittsburgh	Purps	375	
Texas	Houston	White Widow	285	
		Sweet Tooth	275	
		Northern Lights	325	
Virginia	Martinsville	Blue Dream	380	
		Blueberry	420	
Washington	Bellingham	Seattle	280	
		Jack Herer	300	
West Virginia	Morgantown	Cheese	380	
Wisconsin	Madison	Grape Ape	370	
		Headband	350	
INTERNATIONAL	Canada	Brantford	Blueberry	C\$160
		Hamilton	Kush	240
		Super Lemon Haze	275	
		Regs	140	

MARKET ANALYSIS

Prices by the ounce

Once again, Kush landed in the top pot spot, narrowly edging out Diesel as the month's most submitted strain. Kush has been the market's most submitted strain for 13 of the last 15 months. Diesel, Purps, Haze and Blue Dream all made repeat appearances in the top five this month.

US Price Index

YTD Average: \$324



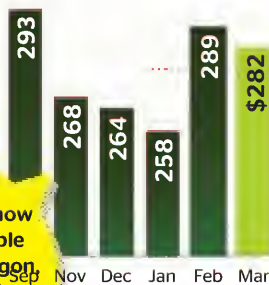
Kind Index

YTD Average: \$406



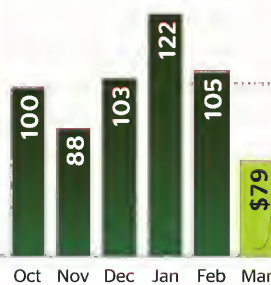
Mids Index

YTD Average: \$276



Schwag Index

YTD Average: \$102



(C-99)

"Hard to believe how much some people pay for pot. In Oregon, supply definitely exceeds demand—which isn't easy."
 Eagle Creek, OR

We want to know what you're smoking! Submit your strain information, including location and price by the ounce, to thmq@hightimes.com.

(AK-47)

"There's great pot around every corner. The AK is a personal favorite of mine. Love this town!"
 Denver, CO

4G

08:20 am

WHITE DWARF

A classic among autoflowering strains.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 65 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
40€



BUDDHA PURPLE KUSH

Speed and taste.

100% Purple.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 65 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
35€



DEIMOS

The most powerful and productive autoflowering variety.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 65 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
40€



QUASAR

A perfect balance between indica and sativa.

No autoflowering.

5 Feminized Seeds
45€



SYRUP

Taste and power, idelicious!

100% Auto.

Harvest in 57 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
35€



PULSAR

Supersative and superproductive.

No autoflowering.

Harvest in 75 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
45€



RED DWARF

Compact and powerful.

100% Auto.

Harvest in 60 days.

5 Feminized Seeds
30€

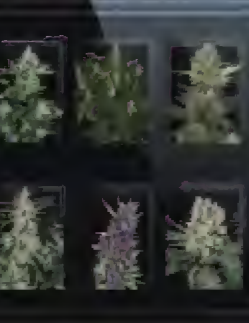


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The best autoflowering mix.

100% Auto.

10 Feminized Seeds
35€





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600W & 1000W

Our signature electronic ballast provides solid light output. Power it up with a 600W or 1000W.



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6 X 6 X 6 & 8 X 8 X 8

Allows multiple areas to be vented with a single fan by splitting one duct into two. Available in 6"x6"x6" and 8"x8"x8".



JD Reflectors

6" & 8"

Cover the space you need with our 6" or 8" XXXL Reflectors and Air Cooled Reflectors.



Ratchet Light Hanger

1/8"

For easy reflector adjustments, this pulley system is easy to use, locks in place and holds up to 160 lbs.



JD T5

2ft & 4ft - 2, 4, 6, 8 tube sizes

Your plants will thrive under our 4 foot or 2 foot T5 fluorescent light fixtures during it's growth stage at 6500K. Available in 2, 4, 6, and 8 tube sizes.



JD Grow Tents

10 X 10 X 7 & 4 X 4 X 7

JD grow tents are built strong, made from non-toxic, 100% light-proof, high reflective mylar material using galvanized poles, metal joints and double locks.

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO GROWING MARIJUANA INDOORS



You've finally made the decision to grow your own cannabis under lighting indoors. What comes next? Danny Danko provides a primer for getting started, from choosing the best possible location to making it from seed to harvest successfully without ever leaving your home.



Nature's Way

A plant's natural habitat is outside, in nature, with full sunshine beaming down and roots planted firmly into terra firma. The checks and balances of wind and rain, coupled with prime planting conditions, result in huge, strong trees laden with heavy buds.

Indoors, a whole different set of criteria apply. Since there's not nearly enough light, you must provide it. Oscillating fans and watering wands duplicate wind and rain. Above all, understanding how to control the environment is the single most important factor separating the fruitful indoor pot producer from those who never seem to get it quite right.

Frigid cold or searing heat does serious damage to sensitive plant tissues. A bone-dry humidity level or overly moist atmosphere can cause serious problems quickly. Many times, plant death is the result, and even those that don't perish are never the same again. If you plan to cultivate cannabis without considering how to maintain a proper growing environment indoors, you can expect severely diminishing returns.



A digital readout captures highs and lows in growrooms.



INDOOR TIP

- Maintain the temperature at 70°F to 80°F
- Keep the humidity between 40% and 60%

A good thermometer/hygrometer combo will let you know the temperature and humidity levels at all times so you can act accordingly to maintain them.

Grow tents provide a perfect solution for growers with limited space indoors.

Cannabis Indoors 101

Assuming you've never grown a plant indoors before in your life, let's consider the following and truly start at the beginning. Marijuana is an annual plant, meaning it grows from seed in the spring, puts on leaves and branches throughout the summer, flowers during the fall, then goes to seed and dies. The fallen seeds, dormant through the winter, sprout again in the warming earth of spring. This is as opposed to the perennials, which live year after year

from the same rootstock.

Indoors, you are re-creating the summer and fall seasons by using a timer on your lighting. The "summer," or vegetative stage, requires 18 to 20 hours of light per day, while the "fall," or flowering stage, needs 12 hours of light and 12 full hours of darkness in order to trigger the plant to build buds on its branches. A typical vegetative time is three to four weeks, and flowering generally takes around eight or nine weeks, so plan

accordingly. Also, always include a week to dry and a few weeks to cure in your schedule. The best indoor growers keep copious notes and use a calendar to ensure that their timing is right.

Room, Tent or Growbox?

First you need to decide on a location for your grow. A spare bedroom is ideal, but an area set aside in your basement or attic can work as well. Closets and storage areas

Grow lights with in-line cooling fans and ducting reduce heat significantly at plant level.





INDOOR GROW FAQ

► How do I start my plants from seeds?

Plant seeds directly into pre-moistened soil in plastic cups about a quarter to a half-inch deep and then tamp it down to cover them. Place the cups under fluorescent light in a warm place, and you should see a growing shoot within three days. Transfer the shoots into larger containers and put them under an MH lamp for their vegetative stage.

► Do I feed my plants differently as they grow?

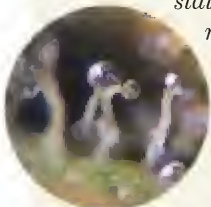
Yes. Plants require different nutrient regimens depending on their stage of growth. Vegetating plants need a fertilizer high in nitrogen, while flowering plants need more phosphorus and potassium. Also, younger plants need less food than older ones with well-developed root systems. The last week or two before harvest should be reserved for feeding your plants plain water only to flush out any leftover nutrients.

► How far should my grow lights be from my plant tops?

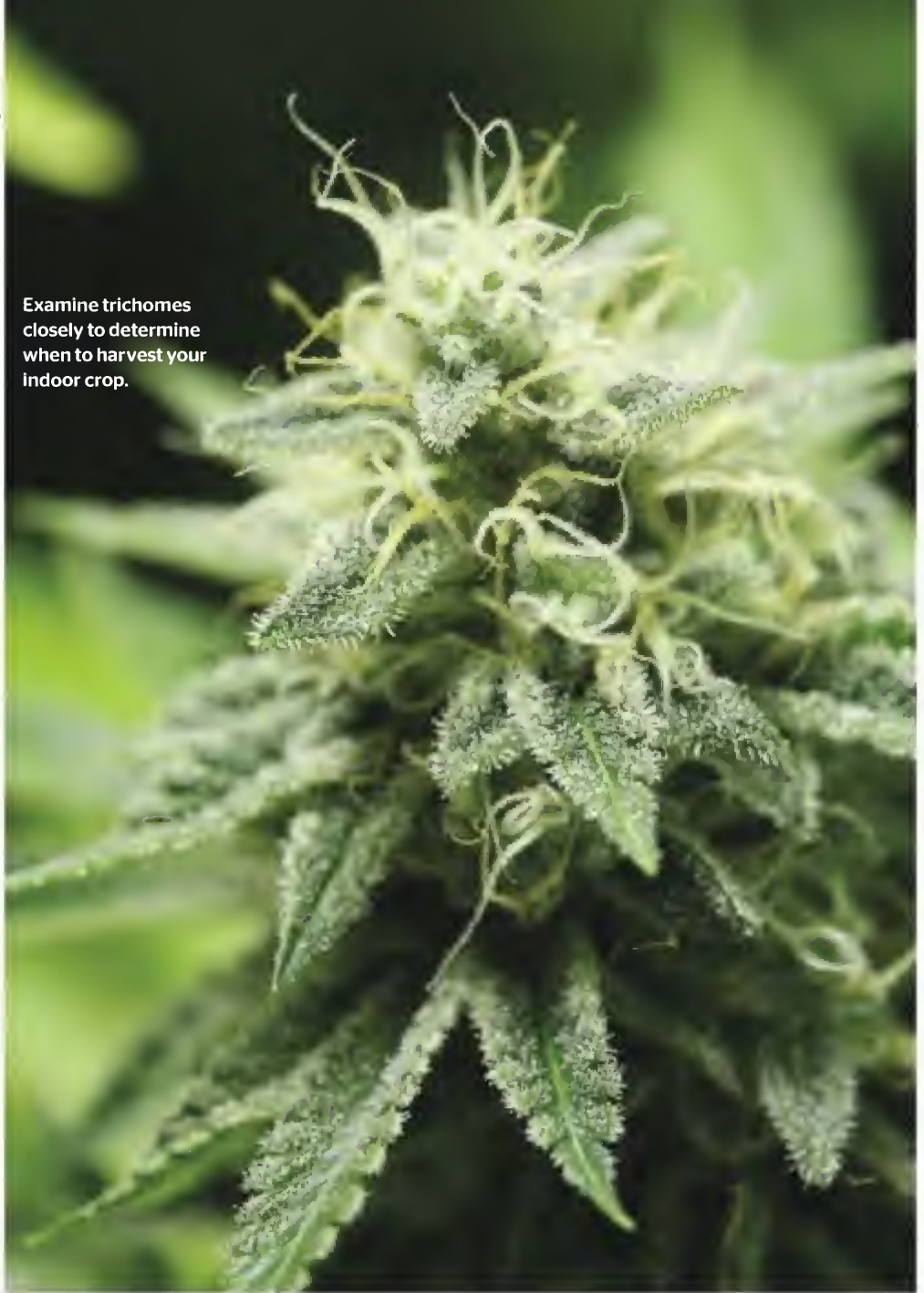
A general rule is approximately 1 foot away, but this varies depending on your choice of lighting: 1,000-watt HPS lights should be kept 18 inches or so from the canopy level, while a bank of fluorescent lights can be a bit more than 3 to 4 inches from the growing shoots. Put a light too close and you'll burn your plants; put it too far away and they'll stretch due to a lack of light. You'll also need to either raise or lower the lights or your plants as they grow, so factor that into your growroom design.

► How will I know when to harvest?

Use a loupe or a strong magnifying glass or scope to take a very close look at the trichomes (the tiny, glandular stalks and heads sometimes referred to as "crystals"). Up close, they'll resemble little glass mushrooms with a stem that forms a clear, round, bulbous top. Inside that gland head reside the cannabinoids (CBD, CBN, etc.), including the psychoactive compound known as THC. Harvest when the majority of these gland heads begin to go cloudy white, but before they're completely amber—although you can harvest when they're mostly amber if you desire a more lethargic stone.



Examine trichomes closely to determine when to harvest your indoor crop.



Harvest when the majority of the gland heads begin to go cloudy white, but before they're completely amber.

are easily converted into small gardens, but for stealth purposes, you may want to consider a tent or growbox. Tents can be set up quickly and taken down just as fast, making them an ideal choice for growers concerned with stealth, while many of the growboxes on the market today allow you to control virtually everything inside them with precision. You can monitor ventilation, lighting and feeding schedules as well as every other environmental factor, and most of these growboxes look like simple storage units or large toolkits.

Indoor Grow-Light Options

Regular incandescent bulbs will not work for growing cannabis, so you must consider other options. Determining which type and

wattage of lights to use really depends on the area you've reserved for your garden. High-intensity discharge (HID) lights are too much overkill for a "micro-grow" located inside a cabinet or small fridge, while fluorescents are hardly ideal for an 8'×8' room. Heat and electrical costs can also be limiting factors, so choose wisely and be sure to tailor the lighting to suit your space.

► **HID lamps** such as MH (metal halide) and HPS (high-pressure sodium) are the lighting of choice for most indoor growers, and with good reason. A variety of wattages, from 150, 250, 400 and 600 to the mighty 1,000-watt versions, make HIDs versatile and yet unmatched in their ability to deliver the essential lumens needed for plants to thrive inside. A mixture of the two spectrums is

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B46 Bloom Cabinet

The B46 is designed to grow from seed or clone all the way through harvest. Some features include:

- 600w HPS Bulb
- 600w digital ballast w/dimmer
- 6" heavy duty in-line duct blower w/ carbon filter
- DWC / Aeroponic nutrient delivery



N46 Veg Cabinet

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- Energy efficient lights for both bloom and veg stage - CFL, HO T5, LED*
- 4" heavy duty in-line duct blower w/ carbon filter
- All you need to Plug & Grow



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Because hot air rises, vent heat from the top of your growroom using an exhaust fan.



INDOOR MYTHS

► You must add CO₂ to get big yields indoors.

Supplementing your growroom with carbon dioxide does increase yields, but it's not absolutely necessary as long as you bring in fresh air and circulate it well. Also, bigger harvests don't mean more potent pot, but only bulkier buds. Regular CO₂ levels in the air range from around 300 to 400 ppm (parts per million). The gas is quickly depleted by plants in an enclosed indoor growroom, which is why supplementing with CO₂ is recommended for grow spaces without intake and exhaust fans.



Also, always remember that any fresh air you bring into your grow space should be filtered through activated charcoal to remove pests and molds.

► You must use HID lighting (HPS or MH).

The ingenuity of indoor growers knows no bounds, and micro-gardeners have figured out ways to grow buds out of tiny plants under fluorescent and LED lights. Newer models of the latter have shown much promise, and some indoor farmers simply can't afford the electricity required to power HID lamps.



► Organic growing indoors smells bad and invites pests.

Many organic products on the market these days put the lie to this prevailing myth—dried bat and seabird guanos, liquid seaweed (kelp) and oxygenated compost teas are just a few that come to mind. Even the liquefied fish products we've encountered recently contain odor-neutralizing agents that make them far more palatable to the nose than older versions.

► Using tin foil on the walls is a great reflective device that will increase yields.

Tin foil is not useful in any growroom. Tin foil reflects light very inconsistently and provides a great place for pests to hide (behind and inside as well). Instead, paint growroom walls a flat white or use heavy-duty Mylar instead.



ideal, but the prevailing wisdom is that MH lights are better for stacking nodes during the vegetative stage, while HPS lights more closely mimic the golden-red glow of autumn sunshine. In terms of size, 400 to 600 watts can cover a 3'x3' to 4'x4' footprint, while 1,000-watt light a 5'x5' space well.

► **Fluorescents and CFLs** (compact fluorescent lights) work great for growers trying to keep costs down or those who need to minimize heat buildup. Clones and vegetating plants in particular can benefit from fluorescents, especially when used to supplement an MH light. Plenty of indoor growers have coaxed nice buds out of plants using fluorescents and CFLs, but they generally don't see the kind of yields obtained by those using HIDs. There are also new LED (light-emitting diode) lamps starting to show promise in indoor setups.

Avoid Light Leaks

Before putting any plants into your space, step inside it with the lights off during the day. If you see any light from outside penetrating through cracks or holes in your space, seal them up and inspect it again. Light leaks during the dark cycle of your flowering stage will confuse your plants into staying in the vegetative stage, re-vegging or even turning into hermaphrodites. Making sure that your dark period is truly dark will keep all of these calamities from happening to you.

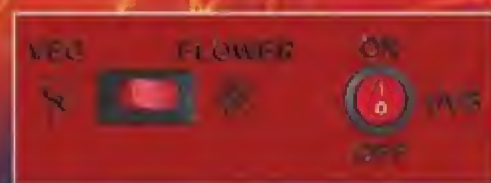
Circulate

Moving the air around your grow space (as well as removing warm, spent and stinky air) is essential to successful indoor farming. Oscillating fans will help ensure that all growing leaves wiggle in the wind,



Bring in fresh air through fine filters to keep from bringing in pests or contaminants.

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INDOOR GROW TIPS



- ▶ **Rotate your plants a quarter-turn each day to ensure that all leaves get sufficient light.**
- ▶ Secure your lights using strong, adjustable hangers so you can easily keep the bulbs at optimal levels.
- ▶ **Enhance lumen distribution by using light movers that rotate or travel on a linear track.**
- ▶ Leave tap water out overnight to allow the chlorine to dissipate before adding your nutrients and applying it to your plants' roots.
- ▶ **Air-cooled HID lights remove much of the heat at bulb level and can be hung lower than non-cooled ones.**
- ▶ CO₂ enrichment using a tank, generator or other carbon-dioxide emitter can increase growth rates and yields significantly.
- ▶ **A muffler attached to your fan for your activated-carbon filter reduces noise.**

without getting completely blasted by a constant, excessive breeze. An exhaust fan located near the top of your grow space pulls air through an activated-charcoal filter in order to clean it before setting it free. Pulling more air out than you have flowing in creates negative pressure, ensuring a fresh supply of CO₂ (and also keeping odors from escaping through any cracks). Be sure to turn off the oscillating fans before spraying or foliar-feeding to avoid getting liquid on your light bulbs, which can deteriorate or break from contact with the droplets.

Indoor Fireworks

Now that you're well on your way to getting started, remember that part of your job as an indoor cannabis farmer is to stay out of the plants' way and let them do their thing. Over-watering and over-fertilizing



A trellising system keeps heavy colas from falling down and losing light.

Over-watering and over-fertilizing are the two biggest mistakes that novice growers make, so try to maintain a balance.

are the two biggest mistakes that novice growers make, so try to maintain a balance. Lift your containers when they're fully watered and when they're not so you can learn how to judge when your plants need another feeding. Raise

nutrient doses incrementally and keep any experiments isolated to one or two plants. Above all, stay curious and enjoy the ride. Nothing's better than enjoying cannabis that you grew yourself—all in the comfort of your own home! 🌿

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BREEDING FOR HOME GROWERS

Hybrids, male plants and pollination techniques for the adventurous connoisseur. By Mel Frank



Male pollen is the catalyst of cannabis procreation. Be sure to store and label pollen packets well.

As a home grower, once you've learned to grow cannabis successfully, even more fun can be had from creating your own seeds, clones and (if dedicated enough) perhaps your very own variety. Beside increasing your enjoyment and marijuana knowledge, you'll no longer have to buy seeds or clones for each new crop. You can become a truly self-sufficient grower.

In the 1970s, growers would plead for potent seed stock, especially early-maturing strains for gardens in the colder East and North. That major problem for home growers—finding good stock to fit particular growing situations—has become a thing of the past. Today's home growers have seed-industry breeders to thank for making available a multitude of wonderful varieties.

These days, almost all commercially available marijuana seeds and clones are hybrids. Landraces, especially "true breeders," generally aren't sold, for one simple reason: If you have two true-breeding parents, you can produce your own hybrids with no need to buy seeds ever again, and the original seed source would soon be out of business.

This is one of the main reasons that commercially sold seeds—whether we're talking tomatoes or marijuana—are generally F1 hybrids. Another reason is the hybrid vigor they possess; hybrids are usually healthier and more vigorous than their parents and often combine desirable characteristics inherited from each. Hybrids developed by knowledgeable breeders are also very reliable in terms of their most important characteristics, such as potency, yield and maturation time. But inbreeding F1 hybrids has historically resulted in a range of possible progeny, often with poor results. While this is still true of tomatoes, it's not necessarily true of today's marijuana strains, since classic varieties such as Skunk #1 and Haze have been selectively inbred through many generations to stay consistent and "breed true."

Breeding Hybrid Generations

When true-breeding parents are crossed by seed companies, the first-generation (F1) hybrids are intermediate between their parents. A tall parent crossed with a short parent generally yields F1 progeny with a consistent height somewhat less than the tall parent. Inbreeding these F1 hybrids—i.e., crossing two of the offspring with each other—will yield progeny (known as F2s) ranging in height from short to tall



Fashion aluminum saucers beneath male flowers to catch fallen pollen.

The benefit of F2 generations comes from the rare gene combinations that can arise.

rather than being consistent in size; the same variation will likely appear in other characteristics, such as differing bud shapes, yields, maturation times, etc.

The benefit of F2 generations comes from the rare gene combinations that can arise—some good, some bad. These might involve simple combinations, such as one pair of genes that controls a particular characteristic like the color of stigmas: for example, an F2 that inherits recessive genes for red stigmas from its F1 parents with white stigmas.

But how do offspring with red stigmas come from parents with white ones? Remember that cannabis plants inherit

from each parent a gene that codes for a specific trait, such as stigma color; these genes then form working pairs, with each gene having more or less influence depending on whether it's dominant or recessive.

Returning to the true-breeding parents with white stigmas in this example, one parent has two dominant white-stigma genes (WW), but the other has one dominant gene for white stigmas and one recessive gene for red stigmas (Wr). This means the two will yield only F1s with white stigmas, since each F1 plant inherits either two dominant white-stigma genes (WW) or one

dominant white and one recessive red gene (Wr). But it is now possible in the following inbred generation that both the male and female F1 parents inherit only the latter (Wr) combination, meaning they both have a dominant gene for white stigmas and a recessive gene for red stigmas. Some of their F2 offspring, therefore, can inherit a recessive gene for red stigmas on both sides (rr)—a 25 percent chance from these two parents. If, in this example, we started with a large number of F1s that parented a large number of F2s, about 56 percent of the F2s would have white stigmas (WW), 37 percent more would have white with traces of red (Wr), and 6 percent would have pure red (rr).

Actually, environmental factors such as ultraviolet light and soil conditions can also influence how much red is expressed. But this illustrates how unexpected outcomes may arise in F2 progeny. And the gene combinations can be much more complicated when a characteristic such as potency is polygenic, meaning that many genes contribute to its development.

F2s, in short, are where those rare and unexpected combinations are found, whether simple or polygenic. This is also why super-potent individuals are still

This dried red Afghani bud is an original landrace strain and makes for excellent breeding stock.



These colorful, striped seeds are ready for harvest. Remember, not all seeds mature at the same time.



found in F2s and why novel characteristics, such as pure red stigmas, were not seen in either parent. Crossing F1 hybrids yields offspring with a greater range of potential gene combinations, and this is where the fun begins and the gems are found.

Most importantly, the potency of F2s should be excellent because, when the industry was first developing, potency was what breeders were primarily concerned with: Lower-potency varieties didn't cut it commercially and were superseded by higher-potency stocks, an ongoing process among serious breeders. Unfortunately, amateur breeders often select breeding mothers for characteristics like bud size, yield, leaf color or quickness to maturity, without always selecting for potency as well. This has diminished the potency in some newer varieties. However, as long as you choose seeds from potent mothers in each generation, the potency in their offspring should remain high.

The Importance of Males

Male plants are often unwanted interlopers in a marijuana crop:

They supply little useful bud, producing only leaves and flowers of mediocre potency and weight compared to females. More importantly, if not removed before flowering, male plants can pollinate the females, resulting in seeded rather than sinsemilla (seedless) crops. Males also take up room and resources better devoted to females—an important factor when you're growing in a cramped closet or extra bedroom.

However, as in nature, males have their purpose for growers. Males are indispensable in breeding programs, especially when it comes to easily producing seeds (in conjunction with their female counterparts) in quantities sufficient for very large crops. Females can be induced to form some male flowers with viable pollen, but once you get started on producing female pollen and feminized seeds, you can get locked into always doing so, as the seeds produced in this genetic line now lack male chromosomes. But a single male turns out prodigious amounts of pollen and is a much simpler and more natural means for producing thousands of seeds. Males also bring added diversity to breeding programs, a most important factor for finding and selecting new phenotypes and, ultimately, new varieties. A true-breeding male of known purity is precious, because characteristics like



Close-up of male pollen sacs ready to open.

The pollen from only a few male flowers will go a long way and can pollinate several large buds, yielding several hundred seeds.

potency and yield are easy to recognize in a female but not in a male, so that crossing with an unproven male is very much a hit-or-miss proposition.

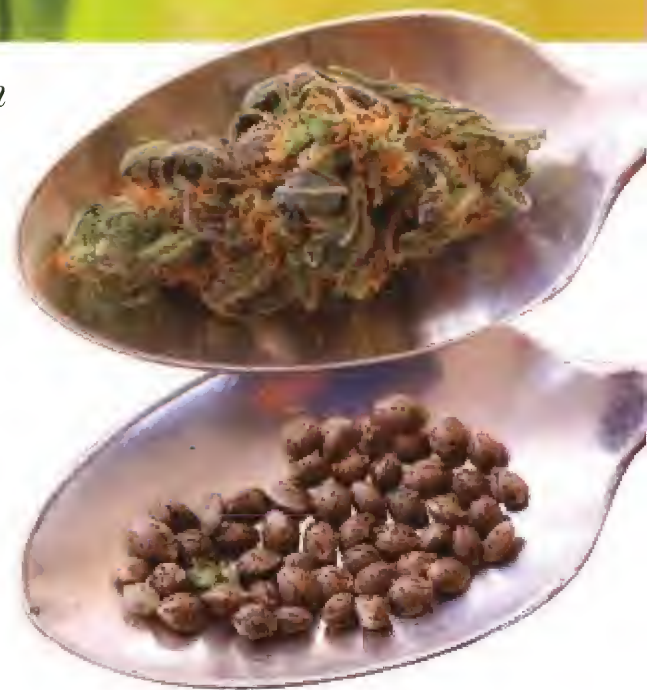
In terms of care, males are also much more forgiving than females. They require less light, nutrients, water and time to mature; they almost never develop rot; and they are less tied to the photoperiod (older males often flower under 16 to 18 hours of light, but like females, they are photoperiodic and will flower in response to a 12-hour light regimen). Males also continue to flower for many weeks, even if subjected to lengthier days or interrupted darkness, rather than reverting as readily as females do. So, conveniently, you can move males beginning to flower under 12 hours of light to a window during the long days of summer, or even to a window in a room moderately lit for nighttime use, and the flowering will continue for many weeks. Wherever the males are flowering

indoors, however, the air must be still. You don't want an open window, as the slightest whiff of air can get the pollen airborne, and central air-conditioning or heating can circulate it to every room.

Collecting & Storing Pollen

➤ Ideally, you'll want the pollen available for an extended period of time (if not continuously) without having to devote another garden to males. With indoor setups where new crops are continuously being harvested, select females can be pollinated with pollen from an earlier crop—either from a long-flowering male, or from male clones flowering in a window or under a modest fluorescent setup, or by using stored pollen, whether fresh or frozen. (Frozen pollen is handy for pollinating at any time of the year.)

Indoors, pollen is usually collected in one of two ways: either by placing saucers made from aluminum foil beneath



each flowering node, or by shaking the open flowers so they release their pollen onto hand-held aluminum foil squares. Some growers also place newspapers or plastic sheets under the males and then collect the fallen pollen every week or two. This more infrequently collected pollen will still produce seeds, but it can lose its potency over time; also, pollen is



After collection, remove debris from pollen and freeze for long-term storage in aluminum packets.

wasted with this method, since much of it lands on the lower flowers and leaves. It's best to collect fallen pollen every two days and then store it for later use (and remember that in high heat or humidity, pollen loses its viability fairly quickly).

If you're planning on storing it long-term, then using fresh pollen is crucial. Carefully pick out any plant matter (mostly fallen anthers—i.e., pollen sacs) from the aluminum-foil collectors and then very carefully fold them into sheets or strips with all of the edges sealed tight. Next, place the foil in a film canister, jar

or plastic baggie—anything that's airtight. As an extra precaution, add a pack of desiccant balls or raw rice to the container to absorb moisture before storing.

The pollen from only a few male flowers will go a long way and can pollinate several large buds thoroughly, yielding several hundred seeds. You want to store lots of foil packets holding pollen from only a few flowers each. Pollen will not survive being taken in and out of storage repeatedly, so a little pollen stored in many individual packets of aluminum foil will stretch its usability over many crops.

Frozen pollen stored properly for well over a year can still routinely produce well-seeded buds.

Growers may also prefer to enclose flowering branches within paper bags to collect the pollen. You can also snip the individual, well-developed male flowers or flowering clusters and store them in dry, open containers to use for pollination during the next few days as the flowers open. No storage

procedure beats using freshly harvested pollen, but for continuous, long-term use, freezing the pollen in individual containers or foil packets is preferred.

Another thing to keep in mind: Pollen stored fresh loses its viability much faster than frozen pollen does. Fresh pollen will still produce seeds after being stored in the refrigerator for seven months—but nowhere near as many seeds as would be produced by a much, much smaller amount of frozen pollen that came from the same male six months earlier.

Outdoors, you should harvest and store branches in paper bags just before the flowers appear ready to open; some flowers will continue to ripen and open with the residual branch moisture. Better yet, you can place the flowering shoots in glasses of water or large rockwool squares, as you would to root a cutting; the shoots will produce much more pollen than those drying in a paper bag. Also, unlike flowering females, flowering males clone relatively easily if the cuttings are taken early in flowering. Male clones are another way to assure a continuous, long-term supply of pollen, with the added advantage that it's always fresh.



Keep fresh pollen dry with desiccant balls or raw rice.

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Applying Pollen

Selectively pollinating individual buds allows your plants to remain otherwise seedless.

This is a simple way to harvest (and test-smoke) sinsemilla plants, yet also gather hundreds of seeds from each one—even small indoor plants. Artist's brushes or Q-tips are typically recommended for applying pollen, but a little finger dab can work just as well; in fact, pollen on artist's brushes becomes airborne even with the most careful application and can result in unwanted seeds, whereas the moisture and oils on your skin are just adhesive enough to attract pollen, which then can be applied without too much becoming airborne and producing random seeds.

Allow chilled or frozen pollen to sit for an hour or so to rehydrate and come to room temperature before applying. Simply press a clean fingertip into the pollen and gently touch it over and around all the stigmas you can reach. Don't try to probe into the bud; just continually brush your fingertip all over the surface and the pollen will reach most of the stigmas. Always mark the areas of pollination with wire twists, yarn, cloth or masking tape. Record the date, male used, mother's identity and any other pertinent information; such information will prove invaluable for subsequent crops.

Indoors or out, you can pollinate separate branches on the same plant using pollen from different varieties. Let's say you have two target branches you plan to pollinate. First, cover one of the branches with a paper bag to prevent cross-contaminating it. After the other branch is pollinated, wait 30 minutes to allow any airborne pollen to settle down, then cover the already-pollinated branch with the paper bag and pollinate the first branch with a different variety's pollen.

Even better for ensuring purity is to wait a couple of days before pollinating the second branch and then mist the plant with water beforehand. After it has thoroughly dried, pollinate the second branch. Wetting ensures that stray pollen from the first pollination will not become airborne or still be viable. When pollinating many females outdoors, you can minimize random seeding by having a helper hold a damp towel tent-like over the branch to catch any airborne pollen as you apply it.

Indoors, you should move your select female out of the garden and, after



Male plants are much more forgiving to grow and can flower much longer.

For a good yield of seeds, wait for the females' buds to become well formed, but pollinate them before many of the stigmas begin to curl and turn rusty looking, which indicates a loss of receptivity.

pollinating it, wait two days and then mist the plant and let it dry before returning it to the garden. Don't try to pollinate plants in a crowded garden if you want to minimize random pollination; a plant outside the garden is much more easily serviced.

To completely pollinate whole plants, it's best to have your male maturing in a separate room with still air. When the male's flowers are opening and the

females have well-developed buds with fresh stigmas, bring them in to surround the male. Once a good number of his flowers are open, give him a vigorous shake, wait a minute, then open a window or use a fan to gently agitate the male and swirl the airborne pollen around for a few hours. A few days later, repeat this procedure. You should see pollinated stigmas on the females withering and turning rust-colored within five days.

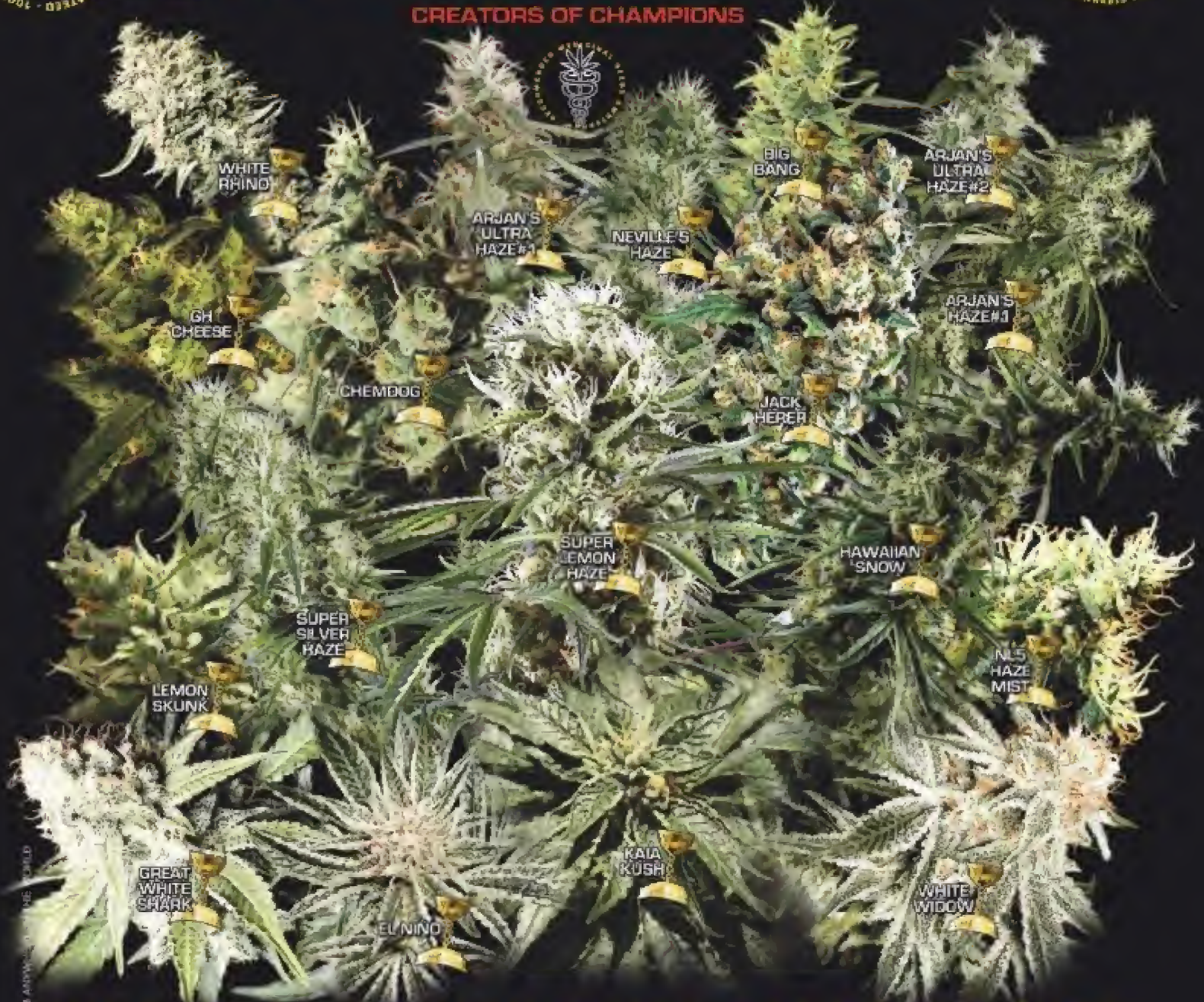


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Even small indoor plants (about 3 feet tall, such as an Afghani-1), when every flower appears to be pollinated, can yield some 2,000 seeds per plant. Keep in mind that the seeds from a fully seeded plant—especially a small one—will be smaller, as the plant has limited resources to nurture so many seeds. (Conversely, the occasional seed you find in an otherwise sinsemilla bud is often larger than normal, because the plant needs to nurture only one or a few seeds.) But the size of the seed will make no difference in terms of the plant's ultimate size, even though a larger seed will germinate a larger sprout.

You can, of course, move a flowering male into a garden of females rather than vice versa; however, pollen from any open sacs will waft away as he is being moved, and female buds may not be pollinated uniformly, as new male flowers open over time. For a good yield of seeds, wait for the females' buds to become well formed, but pollinate them before many of the stigmas begin to curl and turn rusty-looking, which indicates a loss of receptivity. If a plant is pollinated while the buds are too young, new flower production slows or stops, as the female allocates most of her energy to nourishing the seeds, yielding a smaller harvest in terms of seeds and marijuana than would otherwise be the case. This is why you always want to separate the males from the females—because the earlier-flowering males will pollinate females as soon as they begin to flower. Gardens with male and female plants have both types of flowers continuously forming over a period of eight weeks or more, so the pollination and seed maturation will be uneven, yielding a mix of infertile (immature, white) seeds and fertile (mature, richly colored) seeds—and, ultimately, a smaller number of viable seeds and less marijuana.

Keep in mind that seeds can reach maturity in as little as three weeks on vigorous outdoor plants, or in six to seven weeks on smaller, slower-growing indoor ones. Seeds split their protective bracts at maturity, allowing you to see their rich coloration and striping. Wait up to a week before harvesting, as seed development isn't perfectly uniform even when plants are pollinated at the same time. There's no rush to harvest seeds indoors, but outdoors you don't want to wait too long, as mature seeds can germinate in the buds after rains or heavy dews or be killed by fungi or molds.



Pollinate when buds are at a good size with fresh stigmas. Pollinated stigmas will turn rusty after five days.

A true-breeding variety means that the plant's most important characteristics—potency, yield, bud formation and time to mature—are fixed and constant over the following generations.

Keep It Simple



Selective pollination, as described above, allows you to pollinate a few buds on every plant so that later, when evaluating each plant's unseeded bud, you'll have seeds from any of the plants you find most desirable—more potent, flavorful, disease-resistant, colorful, etc. This is a basic, simple and low-tech procedure for developing your own seeds.

However, I don't want to leave the impression that home growers using these methods can easily create their own true-breeding varieties, because it definitely isn't that easy or quick. A true-breeding variety means that the plant's most important characteristics—potency, yield, bud formation, time to mature, etc.—are fixed and consistent over the following generations. But a meticulous breeder first needs to fix one characteristic (maybe two at most), as demonstrated by its uniformity in all of the subsequent offspring, before he goes on to fix the second characteristic, then the third and so on. This takes a good understanding of basic genetics as well as growing perhaps

hundreds of plants through a number of generations. In terms of the numbers of plants and time commitment necessary, this is an undertaking beyond the simple home grower.

Even so, finding an especially desirable plant by crossing F1 hybrids is not that unusual—in fact, many clones sold today came from individual plants that a grower discovered to be exceptional, with her clones given a new name. In small gardens started from seed, you can clone a shoot from each female (before she flowers) and later determine which clone mother was the best. Her clone can then become the mother of all of the clones populating your next garden.

Home growers by definition don't have the spacious fields or huge indoor gardens in which to compare hundreds of plants. Even so, the more F2 plants you grow, the greater the number of possible gene combinations, and the better your chance of discovering a wonderful new phenotype to clone or use as a mother for a new line of seeds. Breeding is always fun, and you never know—sometimes you can get lucky. ✨

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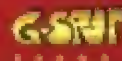
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THE GOLD

Setting the bar for outdoor grows doesn't come easy.





STANDARD

Story & photos by Nico Escondido



It's been a long time since anyone found gold in these parts—but that doesn't mean it's no longer here. Much like the fabled alchemists of yesteryear, who sought the secret of turning base metals into gold, the savvy farmers of NorCal have known for generations that gold grows in trees.

SUSTAINABLE, RESPONSIBLE GARDENING

Rather than start at the botanical beginning with the basic horticultural how-tos, let's start at the ideological beginning with just exactly what a top-rated outdoor grow entails. The first word that comes to mind is responsibility. Just as with wheat farmers in Nebraska or cattle ranchers in Texas, cannabis farmers must adhere to the same set of guidelines and regulations put in place to protect our natural resources and the surrounding environs—as well as the people who use them and live there.

The word “sustainable” turns up a lot

in these kinds of discussions and refers to a process of garden management in which nature's own efforts are not wasted or hindered in any way. What we want to do is to work in concert with nature and even enhance her wherever we can, thereby minimizing the harmful impacts that human activity can have. Of course, examples of human interaction with nature that don't have at least some minor impact are extremely hard to come by, and many people would argue that human beings and their activity are a part of nature in their own right. So what we are really trying to do is find a way of being symbiotic, or at least neutral, with our surroundings when farming. And if you do it right, you

could even have a positive impact on the environment—and your buds.

The farm described in this article, for instance, functions completely off the public power grid. It utilizes solar and wind power to produce over 90 percent of its electricity. And it uses large-format composting processes to create soil mediums for all of its cultivation (which includes fruits and vegetables to feed the farm's occupants).

Using solar, wind or even generators adds to the security of a grow op by keeping the facility from being monitored by power companies or law enforcement. It also saves money over time, with the expensive equipment eventually paying for itself once the grower no longer has to purchase overpriced power from corporate utilities. At the same time, outdoor growers who rely on generators have to be especially careful, since generators are both noisy and have the well-known potential to harm the environment. Indeed, most generators rely on diesel gasoline and can leak and pollute both the air and water. Since most outdoor growers prefer to grow organically as well, diesel generators as a rule just don't fit into the mindset of responsibility that conscious farmers wish to maintain.

Growing gigantic, beautiful cannabis trees isn't easy, but responsible growers have the most success.





Finding water is like striking gold. But collecting and distributing it may prove even more difficult. Right above: Four stake spray-emitters are placed in each container box for even watering. Right below: Short-cycle timers at each plant site allow for customizable waterings for each plant.



WATER & IRRIGATION

When selecting farmland, marijuana growers have a lot to consider, and there's no bigger concern than where the necessary water for their gardens will come from. Perhaps the best feature of this self-sustaining ganja farm is how the farmers get their water for use in everything from feeding plants to drinking, cooking and showering. In California, there have been many arguments about how to find water sources, and even more debate over which natural sources can (or should) be tapped for farming purposes. Diverting water from streams,

rivers or ponds can have devastating effects on the land and people in surrounding areas, so marijuana farmers must make sure that their water source provides adequate water for all things natural—as well as everything that was there before they showed up—before tapping it to feed their plants.

By far the most successful way for outdoor farmers to supply their gardens is to find a natural spring that can provide enough water for this purpose without affecting the rest of the ecosystem. The alternative to a spring is

often sinking an expensive well that will usually turn out only small amounts of hard, dirty water. In some cases, natural springs are located far beneath the earth, unknown to humans, and sophisticated equipment must be used to find them. But when such a spring is found, it's like striking gold for the soon-to-be marijuana grower. Oftentimes, these underground sources are found with the aid of engineers or scientists who know what to look for in identifying potential watershed areas; such markers include certain types of vegetation or a nearby creek that seemingly bubble up out of a mountainside.

Once the water is found, the question then becomes whether it can produce a large enough supply to be used and, if so, how to collect, store and redistribute it. Hands down, the best way to move water on an outdoor farm is by setting up a passive system that relies on gravity alone. Unfortunately, this is easier said than done and requires careful planning and loads of man-hours. Savvy farmers use altimeters and miles of thick, durable hosing to collect the water and move it into large holding tanks. Such reservoirs range greatly in capacity, with the larger primary tanks storing upward of 50,000 gallons, which can then be siphoned off and directed toward the cannabis gardens with their own smaller tanks, which hold anywhere from 5,000 to 25,000 gallons. Carefully placing these smaller tanks at levels slightly lower than the main reservoir feeding them allows gravity to drain and pull the water from one tank to another.

Once the field reservoirs are full, watering the gardens is a simple matter of running spaghetti lines off the main hose directly into each plant's container box. Short-cycle timers allow growers to set watering times for each individual plant's needs, utilizing up to four spray emitters at the base of each plant. At the height of summer, a fully grown marijuana tree can consume up to 10 gallons of water a day. Over the course of an entire grow season, with gardens numbering in the hundreds of trees, it's easy to see why water collection and irrigation is the most essential part of a good outdoor operation.

GREEN GIANTS

There are quite a few reasons to grow outdoors, and if you live in a medical state where privacy and security are less of an issue, then an outdoor garden can yield huge results—not to mention that most medical states severely limit the number of plants that patients or their caregivers can maintain, so putting them outside where they can grow to their fullest potential makes perfect sense.

The idea in outdoor growing is to go

big, and to that end, outdoor growers have a few major advantages working in their favor. To start with, there are far fewer limitations on space. This gives outdoor growers the freedom to choose virtually any strain they want to grow, as space is not an issue—though it'll still be important to choose varieties that finish early enough in the season that they can be harvested before the rainy or winter weather rolls in.

The next and perhaps most important advantage is our sun. Not only is the Sun a free source of light, thereby eliminating

the need for electricity and expensive bulbs, it's also the best possible source of light for plants in terms of spectrum and intensity. The key to fully utilizing the Sun is to find spaces for your plants that have good southern exposure, which will guarantee them the greatest possible amount of sunlight during the day. It's also important to make sure there is no overgrowth from surrounding trees or vegetation that can shade your gardens and steal their sunlight.

Lastly, growing outdoors lends itself to organic or all-natural feeding programs. Many smart outdoor growers have learned that maintaining the kind of nutrient regimens used for indoor gardens is largely unnecessary; instead, growers use composted soil mediums that create excellent microbial environments at the root zone. These microorganisms feed on the composting minerals within the soil and create the nitrogen, phosphorous and other nutrients that plants use. This concept is known as true live organics, where growers “feed the earth” and let the earth feed their plants, just as it occurs in nature. And the results achieved with this method can be phenomenal.

Each plant requires two hours of attention each day. Right: Powdery mildew can form on leaves and ruin entire trees if they are not identified and removed immediately.



MEDIUM, CONTAINER BOXES AND TERRACING

This particular farm not only has all of its gardens facing south; the hillsides that they're on have been terraced, creating multiple tiers of level ground on which large container boxes can be constructed. Terracing helps improve the drainage and allows the farmers here to create a large personal space for each plant. With nothing near it to inhibit growth, such as light-shading trees or other vegetation competing for food sources, a cannabis plant can go from a bush or shrub to an outright tree.

The composted material described earlier is created in the usual tried-and-true fashion, but it also has some natural additives thrown in along the way.

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Larger outdoor farms generally employ their own medium mixtures using composted vegetation and earth soils mixed with peat or sphagnum bases. Sometimes organic feeds such as chicken or bat guano are mixed in as well to give the medium a nitrogen boost, or a natural calcium (oyster shells) or magnesium (kelp) booster is added to ensure a fuller line of minerals. Customizable mediums often have an airier texture as well, with coco fiber or wood chips thrown into the mix. Composted mediums like these need to be started early in the season when the ground is still thawing so that they've attained the right temperature when the actual planting begins.

Once spring arrives and the plants are ready to go into the ground, large 8' x 8' square frames are constructed with wooden planks and stacked double high to create container boxes to house



Trellis systems aid in topping plants to create more colas.



Chicken wire lies underneath container boxes to protect root zones.

them. Before the boxes are laid on each level, graded terrace, a layer of thick chicken wire is put down to keep burrowing animals from gnawing at the root-balls. Once the containers are filled with medium and the young plants have been transplanted into the boxes, a trellis system or latticework is set up around them.

During the early stages of plant growth, growers continually top the plants, or pinch off each top terminal shoot. This results in the lower two nodes producing vigorous top growth, doubling the number of large colas that can be trained to grow up and out through the trellis. Continually topping plants until flowering begins can exponentially increase the number of main top shoots, causing a bushing effect and increasing yields substantially.

The trellis work used on this particular farm is concrete meshing rolled into

The housing arrangements for these outdoor plants may seem like a secondary detail, but when growing giant trees it's actually an integral part of the setup.

a tall, cylindrical tube that surrounds each plant. The plants grow up tall at the center, with shoots being pulled out at the sides through the 6" x 6" square meshing. As the flowering stage nears its end and shoots and colas become too long and heavy for the trellis to handle, simple but sturdy wire "S" hooks are attached to both the trellis and colas for added support.

The housing arrangements for these outdoor plants may seem like a secondary detail to some, but when growing giant trees, it's actually an integral part of the setup. Without the proper terracing, framing of the root zones and trellising for branches, plants will not be able to maximize their yield and potency, since they'll be expending much of their energy simply trying to support themselves.



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YIELD & HARVEST

As mentioned earlier, the primary benefit of growing outdoors is the ability for each plant to achieve its full potential. This applies directly to yields, as outdoor marijuana trees that reach 12 to 14 feet in height can yield up to 10 pounds of bud. But when you have large gardens full of gigantic plants, harvest time can pose a daunting challenge.

As a result, outdoor growers must be keenly aware of each strain's finishing time. The trick is to balance the amount of time a strain needs to finish with the time of year and the weather that comes with it. Leaving plants outdoors too long to pack on extra weight can have disastrous effects if the weather begins to turn rainy. Entire plants or crops can be lost to mildew, botrytis (bud rot) or mold. In Northern California, most growers begin harvesting their plants in early October.

Pruning plays an important role in both plant and bud development as well as harvesting. During the course of the summer months, each giant plant requires attention for at least an hour each day, including watering, pruning and trellis work. Pruning involves cutting back the lower branches so that energy is diverted to the top shoots, and it also includes some detail work in the interior



With good pruning and trellising, there are literally thousands of giant top colas to be harvested, trimmed and cured.

Outdoor marijuana trees that reach 12 to 14 feet in height can yield up to 10 pounds of bud. But when you have large gardens full of gigantic plants, harvest time can pose a daunting challenge.

of each tree—removing inner leaves and branches helps create good airflow and penetration and helps combat against things like powdery mildew and mold.

Cannabis trees are usually taken down one large branch at a time until the entire plant is stripped of its buds. If proper pruning has been done throughout the growing season, harvest time will be that much easier because of it. As the branches are cut, they are placed upright in buckets and kept out of sun. If each branch is overgrown with leaves, workers will need to trim them before they can



The fun part—harvest—is just as much work and even more delicate of a process than one may think.

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be transported to the drying room. This can add many man-hours to an already tedious and delicate process.

Once a tree has been harvested and the buckets are filled with bud-covered limbs, the branches are taken to a drying facility, typically a garage or large indoor space. Here, all of the branches are first tagged with the strain name and then hung upside down on racks or hangers to dry for four or five days. All of the remaining fan leaves must be stripped so as to keep them from covering up the drying buds. Mold and other pests can still develop during the drying phase if the weather is humid or moist, so many drying facilities use dehumidifiers and portable heaters to keep the atmosphere at optimal levels. Giant tarp curtains are used to shield the drying buds from light, and sometimes large air filters are deployed to remove odors and keep out airborne diseases, pests and molds.

After the buds are dry, the trimming process begins. The buds are stripped off the branches and manicured to perfection by hand or, as some commercial operations prefer, by automated

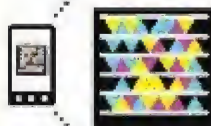
trimmers, which are a lot faster. But though automated trimming can be extremely efficient in terms of time, it's not always as gentle on the buds as trimming by hand. Still, some growers

prefer machines to manpower because hiring a great many people to trim hundreds of pounds of marijuana can be both costly and dangerous in terms of maintaining security. But there's never much reward without some risk—and the reward in this

case, assuming a perfect outdoor setup, can be an average six pounds a plant. At (let's say, for the sake of argument) 100 plants...well, you do the math. That's a pretty nice grow season! ✨

The farm profiled in the preceding article, known to many as Camp Cool Farm, is not only one of the world's premier medical cannabis farms, but it was also one of the locations used in the filming of Nico Escondido's Grow Like A Pro DVD, released in April 2011. For more information on Camp Cool and outdoor growing, or to view preview clips of the DVD visit either headshop.hightimes.com or hightimes.com/tags/nico_escondido. Thanks & grow well!

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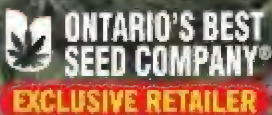
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A dramatic sky with a sunburst over a mountain peak. The sun is positioned at the top of a dark mountain peak, creating a bright, multi-colored sunburst that radiates across the sky. The sky transitions from a deep blue on the left to a vibrant purple and pink on the right. The overall scene is set against a dark background, making the sunburst and the mountain peak stand out prominently.

2012

Cashing In
on the Earth
Cashing Out

By Mike Hughes

There's a lot of money to be made in predicting the end of the world.

Take, for example, the case of Harold Camping, the Christian radio broadcaster and self-proclaimed biblical scholar whose end-time predictions brought in millions of dollars to his organization, Family Radio. In 2009 alone, Family Radio received \$18 million in contributions, and as Camping's May 21, 2011, deadline for Judgment Day approached, hundreds of devout listeners emptied their bank accounts to help him spread the word. Naturally, this left many families broke and Camping fabulously wealthy.

Needless to say, Jesus didn't make his long-anticipated earthly return on 5/21/11, the righteous didn't float on up to Heaven and the world didn't end in a fiery, horrific cataclysm—all of which had been foretold by Camping. But since he isn't shy when it comes to predicting the Apocalypse (on two earlier occasions, Camping had set the Day of Judgment for May 21, 1988, and September 6, 1994), he simply guessed again: This time it would happen just five months later on October 21, 2011—which, as you probably know, also passed without incident. After mistakenly predicting the end of the world four separate times, Camping has now decided that no mere mortal can know the date of the Rapture for certain. Unfortunately, that realization hasn't brought about the return of his followers' money.

For centuries, self-proclaimed prophets have sought to swindle the faithful by claiming a special knowledge of sacred texts. In doing so, they tap directly into a pre-existing belief system and thus are perceived as credible when they would otherwise be seen as untrustworthy or simply mad (imagine if Camping had gone around trying to convince people that the world was coming to an end based on his interpretation of a bus schedule rather than the Bible).

This same basic principle can be seen in some of the predictions and theories surrounding the 2012 phenomenon. While many well-intentioned scholars and theorists have weighed in on the subject, they unfortunately get lumped in with the con

The Tortuguero Tablet is an ancient Mayan ruin containing hieroglyphs that mention the "end date."



men (and con women) who are using the popular modern conception of the Maya—as a mysterious and wise civilization with eerie ties to the occult—to lend credibility to their outlandish theories. Once that credibility has been established, it's a lot easier to sell books, line up speaking engagements and separate the gullible from their hard-earned money.

But what did the Maya themselves intend with this whole 2012 thing? Nearly every current prediction for the Earth's demise (or massive, transformational event) is rooted in the Mayan calendar's "end date" of December 21, 2012. However, the Maya themselves are long dead—and since they weren't trying to sell books or incense or magic crystals, their specific thoughts on the subject are infuriatingly vague.

Before we take a tour of the various scenarios that some believe will play out on the 2012 winter solstice, let's examine the basics regarding that particular day.

The Mayan Calendar

The Maya are revered for what many see as their preternatural understanding of mathematics,

astronomy and time. Indeed, for a civilization that reached its height well over a thousand years ago, the Maya managed to establish an incredibly elaborate and accurate system for tracking the passage of time. The Mayan calendar is at the heart of the 2012 phenomenon in part because, all these years later, we still have no idea how they did it. Their basic cycle was the Tzolk'in, which had a 260-day count (a time period similar to the period of human gestation). The Tzolk'in was used in conjunction with the Haab', which had a 365-day count. The two calendars synched up once every 52 years and usefully kept track of specific days and events.

However, to track longer periods of time, the Maya used the so-called Long Count calendar, which follows a 5,125-year cycle that began

(when correlated with modern calendars) on August 11, 3114 BC, and ends—you guessed it—on December 21, 2012. This is the root of the many Maya-related doomsday prophecies, the idea being that these wise, mysterious people created a calendar that kept impeccable track of time for over 5,000 years and then abruptly stopped—so surely they must have foreseen the end of the world or else the calendar would have kept on going.

Yet scholars and skeptics are quick to point out that 12/21/12 doesn't signify the end, since the Maya thought of time as cyclical. Thus, they naturally believed that time would continue in the next cycle.

But wait, a 2012 adherent might proclaim, you're missing the point: Of course time and the universe will continue into the next cycle, but we here on Earth won't; hence the Maya end date, since once we've been destroyed, we won't be needing any more calendars. Which is valid enough, as far as it goes—but many scholars also believe that, far from a cause for trepidation, the Maya viewed the end of a cycle as something to celebrate. Still,

the doomsday scenarios abound because, as we've seen, death sells.

Smoke 'Em If You Got 'Em

So how exactly will the Earth bite it in 2012? There are far too many cataclysmic scenarios associated with the Mayan calendar to examine here, everything from massive solar storms to an alien invasion (and some even believe the Maya themselves were aliens who came here to help prepare us for the new age of global harmony that will kick in after 2012).

However, a few scenarios in particular have really caught on with the 2012 crowd. One such theory involves the Earth's magnetic poles suddenly—and catastrophically—changing places. Theorists claim that this has happened many times over the last 76 million years and is bound to happen again. (What's more, we're supposedly long overdue for such a reversal.) Some people claim that the process has already begun, as the Earth's magnetism is gradually weakening. However, if it occurs suddenly instead of gradually, the pole shift could trigger earthquakes and volcanic eruptions that would leave most of us very dead.

Another scenario that sets 12/21/12

as the date of global cataclysm involves a massive collision with "Planet X," also known as Nibiru—supposedly a large heavenly body orbiting the sun at the far reaches of the solar system, on a collision course with Earth. Despite the fact that this planet's existence has been thoroughly debunked by scientists around the world, some people still believe that Nibiru is out there. Attempts to inject reason into this scenario are generally met with fervent claims that NASA is involved in a far-reaching cover-up of the evidence that this deadly planet exists.

Can't We All Just Get Along Once A Large Portion Of Us Die Horribly?

Some 2012 theorists don't foresee the end of the world occurring on 12/21/12; instead, they view the final day of the Mayan calendar as the beginning of a new cycle that will usher in an era of global harmony. Unfortunately, many of these theories still involve a rather intense thinning of the planet's current population. However, on the bright side, those who survive will live together happily in a new age of peace and prosperity. These folks liken the whole process to human birth, in which

the bringing forth of new life is intrinsically accompanied by pain. According to these theorists, the best way to ensure that you're on the winning team is to get with the program early: start living a positive, forward-thinking life, and prepare for an existence devoid of the so-called technological "advances" that impede our innate ability to relate to others in a profound and authentic way.

How Freaked Out Should I Be Right Now?

The truth is that no one knows for certain what December 21, 2012, has in store. While it's likely that date will bring about nothing more noteworthy than the year's shortest period of daylight (as it does every winter solstice), apocalyptic visions will continue to proliferate—an indictment of sorts of our society in and of itself. Ultimately, it's up to us to examine the evidence and draw our own conclusions. In the process, however, beware of false prophets bearing prognostications of doom, as history is filled with opportunistic swindlers and con artists using the sacred (or the esoteric) in an attempt to cash in. ✨

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by DAVID
BIENENSTOCK

JEREMY PIVEN

The multiple Emmy award-winning actor talks about smoking with Snoop Dogg and our need to legalize the “herbal medication” as soon as possible.

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW

Despite the fact that it’s a phone interview and he speaks with the exact same voice you recognize from television, it only takes a moment to realize that Jeremy Piven is not, in fact, a lot like Ari Gold, the brash Hollywood agent he played to great acclaim on HBO’s *Entourage*. Nor does he in any way resemble Droz, the Type A slacker who led the understimulated coeds of 1994’s *PCU* in search of packed bongos and good times.

In fact, Piven comes across as downright shy, not to mention a little wary of talking on the record with a notorious pot magazine. Naturally, he’s most interested in discussing *I Melt With You*, a new feature film in which he stars (along with Rob Lowe, Thomas Jane and Christian McKay) as one of four college buddies getting together in Big Sur, CA, for a drug-fueled annual reunion that eventually threatens to spiral out of control—all set to a killer ’80s New Wave/punk soundtrack meant to recall an earlier but no more innocent era when these guys were actually young enough to party this hard.

Ironically, it’s exactly the kind of low-budget, high-risk film that *Entourage*’s Ari would be dead set against for one of his high-profile clients. Piven even felt compelled to apologize to his own mother, whom he invited to the world premiere at the Sundance Film Festival, after the movie’s searing depiction of sex and narcotics left his longtime acting coach with

decidedly mixed emotions about seeing her son go to such a dark place on the big screen.

On the other hand, Piven has fond memories of seeing his favorite stoner comedies at a formative age, supports the full legalization of what he calls “herbal medicine,” and certainly didn’t just say no the night Snoop Dogg passed him a blunt on the dance floor. Overall, his views on pot are supportive and nuanced—just don’t expect him to start naming his favorite strains...

What do you think *I Melt With You* has to say about drug use? What’s the takeaway for an audience?

It’s a pretty gonzo journey that’s not didactic in any message about drug use. There are some characters that need to medicate themselves to the point that they’re not present, to avoid feeling the pain that goes along with being human. We’re not talking about herbal medication, by the way; we’re talking about man-made substances...

Is the distinction between “herbal medicine” and

something “man-made” an important distinction for you personally?

I think it is. There is a very big distinction—I think that they’re two completely different experiences.

Throughout *I Melt With You*, there’s a kind of search for epiphany that’s related to some of the drug use in this film. Do you think that a character—or even a real person—can gain useful self-knowledge that way?

Mushrooms and peyote and whatnot, they’ve been used in different cultures for



thousands of years to unlock parts of your mind that you don't necessarily pay attention to. But in this particular case, the epiphanies come about because of the events of the movie; they're not pinned directly onto drug usage.

"Obviously, people are going to find a way to smoke marijuana, whether it's legal or not legal. So you gotta figure: If they made it legal and taxed it, that would be a really great way to find some more income for this country."



One thing we've always really appreciated at HIGH TIMES about *Entourage* was the way marijuana could be portrayed as something that can be part of the background in a scene, as opposed to always driving the narrative: "...and then they go get White Castle or something." Was that a conscious decision?

Well, like most of the things on *Entourage*, we tried to keep it as authentic as possible, no matter what we were dealing with...Really, it all stems from Mark [Wahlberg] and his crew [upon whom the series is based]. We kind of took dramatic license, of course, but Mark had a Rasta in his crew—his name was actually "Rasta"—and there was certainly, shall we say,

some experimental use of the herbal medication going on, if you know what I'm saying. So that came from a very real place and from a very real character. I think that's what you're sensing with the authenticity: It didn't have to be some sort of broad comedy proposal just because a character smoked weed.

Was there a kind of pot consultant or stylist or somebody on set tasked with keeping the authenticity there?

I don't believe we had a dramaturge for the herbal medication, no. But to be honest, because it wasn't my story line, I don't really know how it was dealt with exactly.

How would you describe Hollywood's view of pot right now?

Are people pretty open about the fact that they use marijuana or medical marijuana, or is it something they tend to keep under wraps?

I really don't have a clue, but I do know that obviously people are going to find a way to [smoke marijuana] whether it's legal or not legal. So you gotta figure: If they made it legal and taxed it, that would be a really great way to find some more income for this country, don't you think?

I think that HIGH TIMES can certainly endorse that position.

Yeah, exactly—sorry, I'm just stating the obvious.

Obvious to us, maybe, but there was a federal press conference recently announcing

"Yeah, I've enjoyed the herbal medication with Snoop before. I have... I'm not going to lie."



a crackdown on medical marijuana in California. Do you know anybody who's used marijuana medicinally?

Sure, absolutely. There are obviously a lot of different uses for the herbal medication.

I might even have seen a picture of you and Snoop enjoying the herbal medication. Have you seen that picture?

Yeah, I've enjoyed the herbal medication with Snoop before. I have...I'm not going to lie.

How did that come about? Did you just meet him that night, or were you guys hanging together or...

It was just one of those things.

I don't think we're going to "out" Snoop, by the way.

Exactly...Listen, I don't think that's a variable; we both know that. But I'm also speaking for myself, and I'm not a dummy, you know what I mean? I understand how this goes—but what I really want to do is promote a film I'm incredibly proud of. And if you're interested in doing that, I'm totally down.

Okay, so then what first attracted to you to *I Melt With You*?

I just thought it was an incredibly brave piece, where you have to kind of fully immerse yourself in it and be emotionally available. I was

actually sitting in the exact same chair I'm sitting in now when I first read it, and I remember dropping the script and knowing that I had to do it.

I've never been a part of a project that had more of a true independent spirit. This was a group of guys coming together and working for scale, bringing their own wardrobes, and just figuring out a way to shoot it on these beautiful little cameras and let's get it done. What did it cost? Bare bones—we didn't have any trailers, but I had the time of my life. I worked my ass off, and that's what it's all about, man.

And how did you enjoy shooting in Big Sur along the coast?

It made for a beautiful backdrop because it's so stunning and dramatic and open and wide, so our location juxtaposed the very claustrophobic story we were telling and really opened it up. It ended up being the perfect place. It would have been easy to go to Vegas and shoot this and get really dirty, but that would have been redundant. I love that we did it in such a naturally beautiful place.

Obviously, you ended up with a really intense film. Are you also a fan of mellower stoner comedies, like the Seth Rogen/Judd Apatow-type movies?

I've been a fan of stoner movies since Cheech & Chong. I even liked watching Dave Chappelle get stoned on film; that was always a treat. I just think it's a fun comedic proposal, because everyone kind of acts differently depending on circumstances—your level of experience, how much you've done, all that kind of stuff. The comedy can be endless.

When you're out and about, do people bring up *PCU* a lot, or is that kind of a blast from the past at this point?

PCU is one of those





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under-the-radar cult classics. It's become part of the college ritual to watch it—which is very flattering, because when we were doing it, I felt that it was really funny and was very proud of it. The fact that it's lasted is a nice feeling.

Were you able to relate to a character that likes to party like that?

Well, in high school, I played football and I acted and, basically, worked hard and played hard, so I could relate to that. But I was never a leader among men like Droz.

If you had to guess where that character might be today, a little more than 15 years later?

Where would Droz be today? That's a great, great call. There's a part of me that wants him to have figured out his niche and found happiness...either that or he's selling used cars somewhere, miserable. I don't know. I don't know where he is.

I know a few people who run the different medical-marijuana dispensaries, and assuming he's matured over the years, I think he would be a good fit for that.

That's an excellent call. I can see him very much doing that.

Is there someone you've always wanted to portray in a biopic?

Yeah, I'm a huge Keith Moon fan—I think he was a pretty brilliant, original, reckless, wildly pelted and an underrated drummer. He was like a perfect gentleman during the day, and then at night became this whole other person. He was the first rock star, the first guy to get out there and play brilliantly and then drive his Bentley into a pool.

I'm also a huge Marlon Brando fan, as is every actor, obviously. He was an incredibly brilliant and eccentric maverick, and I'm just dumb enough to want to give it a whack.

Any other projects in the works that we should know about?

Yeah, believe it or not, I'm going to pull a 180 after *I Melt With You* and play opposite the lovely and talented Miley Cyrus. I bet you never thought I'd say that. It's called *So Undercover*—and I'm not kidding.

Sounds interesting.

It's really funny, actually. When I first heard about it, I didn't know why they were interested in me at all, but then I realized that this is a chance to do a role that I've never done—and Allan Loeb is a really prolific and funny writer. It was just so fun, and I had great chemistry with Miley. I never, ever would have guessed that.

She claimed she was smoking Salvia divinorum in that video on the Internet with the bong. Have you ever tried that?

I never have, no.

Did you see the video I'm talking about?

No, I was shampooing that night, so I missed the video.



Piven does research for a "roll" in Snoop's herb-laden entourage.

Can you think of anybody who'll be really excited that you're going to be in HIGH TIMES?

Absolutely. My friend Spoonie... Spoonie G. He loves HIGH TIMES.

There's something about "Spoonie" that makes me suspect you guys grew up together.

When a guy is in his forties and his name is Spoonie G, you know you have some history with him.

I'm sure he'll be excited about the shout-out. I assume we can print Spoonie G's name and not cause him any undue harm, right?

He will fall off his toilet seat...and I think we might have to end on that note.

Sounds good. Thanks again, and if you ever need anything from me or HIGH TIMES...

Now you're going to make me start thinking, "What do I need from HIGH TIMES?" Thank you for offering. I like the offer.

You got a favorite strain?

You know what? I don't—but I love that you offered. It's one for the books. I can tell my friends...

You can tell Spoonie.

I can tell Spoonie G, "Man, they offered me some craziness."

We're having a HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in Los Angeles this February. I'm putting you and Spoonie down on my guest list.

I love that! Thank you, bro. ✨

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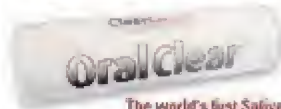
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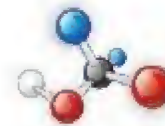
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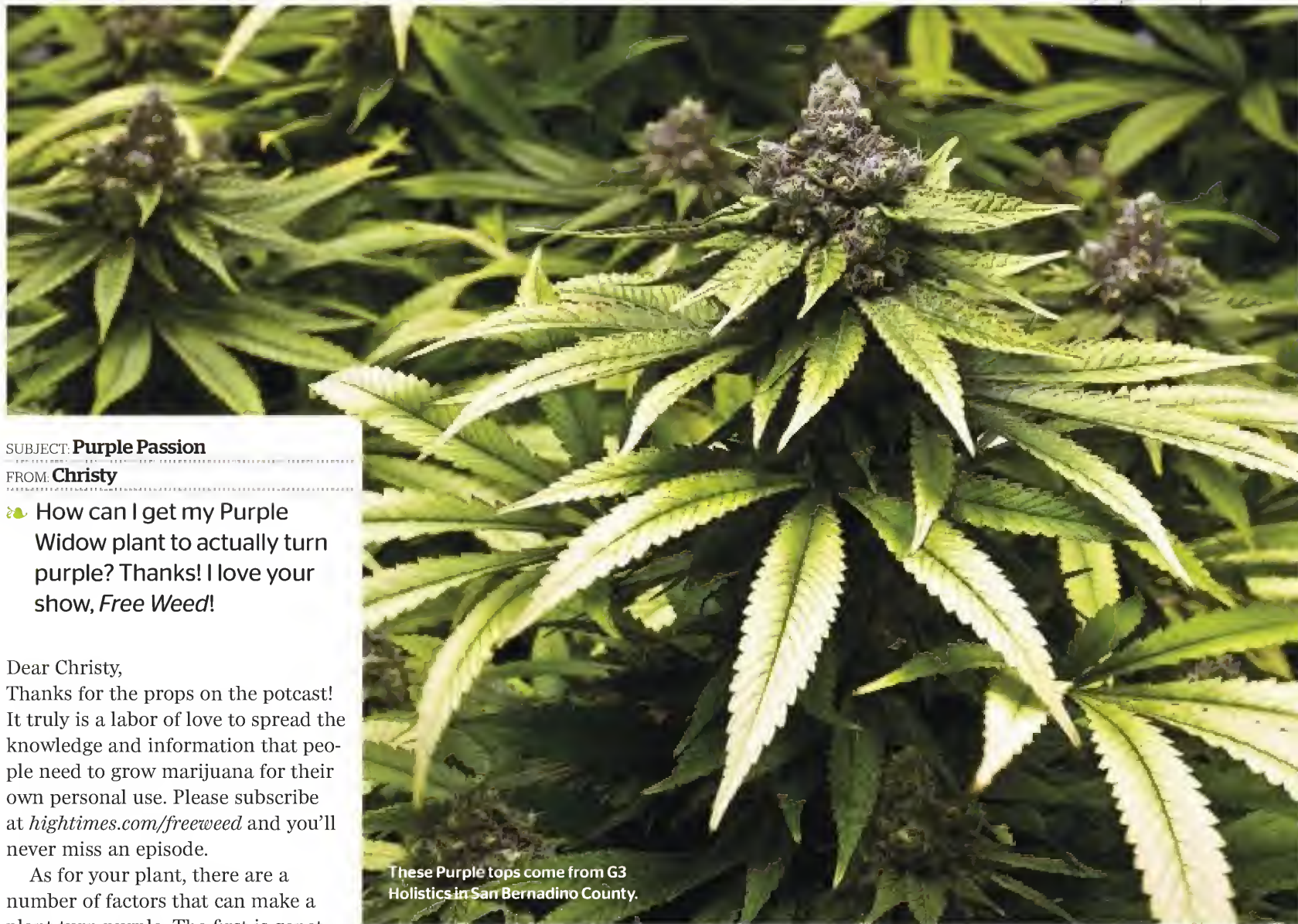
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SUBJECT: **Purple Passion**

FROM: **Christy**

🌱 How can I get my Purple Widow plant to actually turn purple? Thanks! I love your show, *Free Weed!*

Dear Christy,
Thanks for the props on the potcast! It truly is a labor of love to spread the knowledge and information that people need to grow marijuana for their own personal use. Please subscribe at hightimes.com/freeweek and you'll never miss an episode.

As for your plant, there are a number of factors that can make a plant turn purple. The first is genetics—some plants turn purple simply because that trait is in their DNA. These are strains such as Granddaddy Purps, Grape Ape and the Black; as they mature, they'll exhibit a darkening of leaves and buds.

Another factor that can make many plants turn purple is cold weather as harvest time approaches. Plants that survive cold nights (without frost, of course) will turn purple; indoors, this can be re-created by letting the room get colder using outside air (in the winter) or by running AC during the hotter months to bring the temps down to under 70°F during the night cycle.

These Purple tops come from G3 Holistics in San Bernadino County.

SUBJECT: **Mites or Mold?**

FROM: **P.**

🌱 I'm getting what look like spider mite webs, but they only manifest two weeks before harvest, and when I pick off them with my finger, the web sack smells like mold. The "product" is a standard strain, nothing special, as this is mostly a rewarding hobby. I use a 250-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) light for flowering and a 250-watt metal halide (MH) for veg, plus I have constant airflow and circulation. I've seen no signs at all of spider mites (assuming that's what they are) until right around harvest time. Could it be a strain of mold, seeing as

it smells a bit moldy (and the "web" does appear to be slightly fuzzy)? It's always at the base of the flower where it connects to the stem. Any ideas?

Dear P.,
Sounds to me like your problem could be some sort of airborne mold that looks similar to webbing when it attacks. Does it spread throughout the bud, or is it isolated to one area? If it spreads, it's most likely a mold issue, and you need to make your area less humid and take preventative measures such as burning sulfur.

The other possibility is that these are cocoons for moths or butterfly larvae.

Danko Tip: Pruning lower branches that won't reach the canopy level encourages more growth up top.

A hydroponic clone being misted with nutrient solution.



Are there moths in your space? Your description sounds like it could be a case of powdery mildew, but your mention of a “web sack” makes me think it could be some sort of nesting bug.

SUBJECT: **Light Leak**

FROM: **G.**

🌱 Does the light from an infrared LED camera affect the photoperiod if used at “night”? I need to know if my security equipment might keep my plants from flowering. Thanks!

Dear G.,
For the answer to this question, I conferred with my colleague, HIGH TIMES cultivation editor Nico Escondido, whose knowledge of lighting and spectrum is

second to none. Here’s what he tells me: “The entire visible range of light from 400 nanometers to 700 nm—and some wavelengths in the near-infrared (700 to 1,000 nm)—are highly active in driving photosynthesis in most plants. However, the most familiar plants containing chlorophyll *a* generally cannot use light in wavelengths longer than 700 nm (and no organism on earth can process light over 1,000 nm), so infrared is not considered part of the photosynthetically active radiation (PAR) that plants process during photosynthesis. Still, it’s important to note that light in the red wavelengths carries the heaviest amount of photons, or light energy, that plants use to make food (glucose). So to prevent any confusing signals that may stress your plants during their dark cycle, it’s best to avoid

bringing any light into the garden while the ladies are sleeping. If you have to use light for nighttime work, low-intensity green light is the safest bet, as plants absorb the least amount of green spectrum, with most of it reflected by leaf pigments.”

Thanks, Nico! And be sure to check out Nico’s *Grow Like a Pro* DVD at headshop.hightimes.com.

SUBJECT: **Switching to Hydro**

FROM: **Chad**

🌱 I’m a soil grower and have been for a while now. I want to change to hydroponics, maybe deep-water culture (DWC). Do you think this might be a good move? I’m in a confined area (4’ x 3’), so I have 12 square feet of total grow space. I want to grow a few plants with more tops. Should I employ a Sea of Green (SOG) or Screen of Green (ScrOG) setup? I have some great materials on hand: the orange plastic fencing that construction crews use to keep people from falling into holes.

Height isn’t as much of an issue as heat is: I want to add a 600-watt HPS to the 360-watt LED I’m currently using. If I bought a portable air conditioner, do you think that would help offset the heat from the light? I have a 424-cfm inline fan running from my carbon filter that I would duct to my 600-watt light to help cool it too, but I can’t vent the air out; I need to have a sealed room because of my living conditions. Any comments you have would be great—good or bad, I’m ready to hear it, homey! By the way, you guys OWN!

Dear Chad,
Wow, thanks for the kind words! Switching from soil to hydroponics isn’t nearly as tough as you might think—you just have to keep a few more things in mind and get yourself some meters, and the results can be astonishing. The biggest benefit of going hydro is the explosive growth rate that can be achieved when everything is dialed in properly. The drawbacks become a factor only when there’s a breakdown in temperature control, pump timers, etc.

You’re right to consider deep-water culture. DWC systems employ large buckets with plenty of room for roots to expand as they’re bathed in oxygenated nutrient solution. Each plant will yield much more, but in turn they’ll

Danko Tip: Foliar-feeding with compost tea during the vegetative stage rinses dust from leaves, provides a mild nutrient solution to your plants and protects them from pests and disease.

need more room for their branches. A ScrOG setup works well with DWC due to the rapid growth of new shoots and branches. Using the fencing you describe, you can create a horizontal canopy at the level you want for your plants and then train the shoots under the netting as they grow. The idea is to fill out the empty spaces with shoots, which will each become a flowering top as the blooming stage progresses.

The portable air conditioner should solve your heat problems, but don't skimp on a cheap one or one that can't handle your space.

SUBJECT: Heavy Branches

FROM: Chronic Dave

🌱 Danny, please keep up the good work! I read HIGH TIMES cover to cover the day I receive it, and then I'm bummed that I have to wait another month for the next issue. This summer, we grew a Tangerine Dream plant along with a few other types outdoors. The TD grew fast and hardy, but when it was around 10 feet tall, the main stalk split in half, right down the middle.

We're saving it gingerly, with much plant shock. For next year, can you offer any suggestions on supporting heavy branches with something other than plant stakes? A friend suggested some sort of concrete fencing that has 7-inch holes that allow you to reach in and water, but I couldn't find any such type of chain-link-style fencing made from concrete. My grow is approximately 15 feet long and 3 feet wide. Thanks for any advice!

Dear CD,

So glad to hear that you enjoy the magazine so much! One of the dangers of growing monster-sized plants outdoors is that their very weight makes them difficult to support without help. I've seen many innovative trellising systems, but by far the easiest is to use strong wire fencing as a cage around the plants and let the branches grow through the many holes. As long as the fencing is secure, the branches will stay standing.

Also, cannabis has a very strong survival instinct, so when branches break or split, they can be placed back together and secured using strong tape or wrapping. Many times, the branch will recover and continue to thrive, even after what looks like a catastrophic break.

SUBJECT: Removing Leaves

FROM: Pete

🌱 How do you feel about pruning off damaged or dying leaves? Does the plant still benefit in terms of energy production from a damaged fan leaf?

Dear Pete,

I don't recommend pruning healthy leaves unless it's during the vegetative stage and you're strategically removing large fan leaves that shade out growing shoots. Otherwise, leave lush, healthy green leaves alone so they can do their job: converting light energy into plant cells.

Damaged or dying leaves, however, are another story and should be dealt with accordingly: They must be removed to avoid creating a place for pests and disease to spread. Both will attack plants at their most vulnerable point, so keeping yellowing, brown, burnt or dying leaves on the plant only encourages problems to develop.

Also, when you remove the leaves, don't simply toss them on the growroom floor, where they can still cause many problems. I can't tell you how many gardens I've visited with dead leaves all over the place. Be sure to dispose of them properly. They're perfect for the middle of a compost pile: Worms love them and end up throwing a party and inviting all their friends to feast on the tasty cannabis.

SUBJECT: Too Much Fan

FROM: Rebecca

🌱 Hey, Danny—thanks for all the helpful tips you provide!

We've had various closet/guerrilla grow projects over the years, but this time we're getting serious. We purchased a 4' x 4' grow lab and have a 400-watt MH light for veg and a 600-watt HPS for flowering, with a flexible ballast and a nice reflector hood.

After we got things going—perhaps we waited a bit too long—we installed ducting and an exhaust fan. Our local



Fan leaves on this Purple Kush plant are healthy and lush.

Danko Tip: Always store dried and cured cannabis in sealed, airtight jars in a cool, dark place.



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specialty gardening store suggested that we get a 435-cfm fan, which we did (though we're skipping filtration since we aren't particularly concerned about the odor). But now I'm thinking the fan is too big. Even with the vent panels open and a 6-inch screened duct for intake, the grow lab's walls are sucked in like it's a vacuum. We're not sure if we should exchange the fan for a smaller model or get a filter. Your thoughts?

Many thanks from the Solidarity State!

Dear Rebecca,
The fan is designed to push air through a filter, so I think your best bet is to get the charcoal filter and attach the exhaust fan to it. This will slow down the rate of air being moved out substantially, and it

has the added benefit of cleaning that air as it leaves your space. Your walls will no longer be sucked in, but enough air will still move around to keep things cool as well. Good luck!

SUBJECT: **Box of Rain**

FROM: **Susan and Chuck**

🌱 We just had 18 inches of rainfall on our plant. The leaves are turning yellow and light green, except around the buds—the pistils are turning burgundy or brown, and the only dark green is at the budded ends. I guess it was like a flush, but a little early. Should I cut her down or wait it out?

Dear Susan,
It's tough to determine whether you

Fans and charcoal filters clean odors from your growroom.



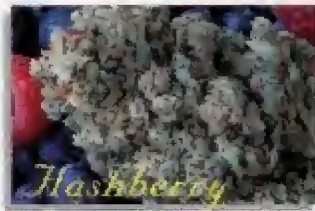


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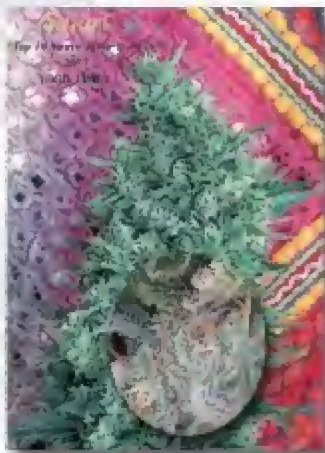
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should harvest or not without seeing the plant (even in a photograph), but I'll do my best. If you still have more than three weeks to go before you planned to harvest, it would be ideal to feed some balanced flowering nutrient solution to the plant to green her up a bit. If you're less than two weeks away and the buds are close to fully formed, then you should harvest now to avoid any rotting or further yellowing and degradation.

SUBJECT: **Oxygen Network**

FROM: **GreenD**

I love growing in soil or soilless mixes but I always seem to have a problem with getting enough oxygen to the roots. If I were to put an air pump at the bottom of the soil would it help improve my root zone or would it just dry out the soil too fast?

Dear GreenD,
Getting oxygen to roots is as important as providing water and nutrients in order to have healthy growth rates above the soil. A simple tube and reservoir system is perfect and can also be used to water the plants from below. Use a hollow pipe to connect vertically to an open section at the bottom of your container that's below soil level. Oxygen will be able to flow to your roots and you can also water the plant through your tube. Fill the reservoir and the plant will take up only what it needs in terms of nutrient solution and fresh air.

If you're interested in how these systems work, check out 420growsystem.com or earthbox.com to see two innovative containers that deliver oxygen as well as nutrient solution directly to plant roots. ✨

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Any news on the alleged links between marijuana and schizophrenia? Is this stuff ever going to die?

—Wizard

Hi Wizard,
New data from the United Kingdom show that childhood trauma, not cannabis use, seems to be one of the key issues in developing psychosis. These researchers studied over 7,000 people. At first glance, it looked as if cannabis related to psychosis. Once they took trauma into account, the relationship between cannabis and psy-

chosis disappeared. The hype about marijuana and mental illness is thousands of years old, but I do think that data will finally put this myth to rest soon.

relief. Nevertheless, comparable symptoms can appear because of infection, celiac disease and a host of other medical problems. Anyone with these symptoms should see a physician.

—Tom Thumb

Does any research on growing techniques actually get published?
Hi Tom,
Growing techniques are finally reaching scientific journals. Belgian researchers grew five different strains under various conditions. They said that

The gastrointestinal tract is very rich in cannabinoid receptors, and folks with IBS report that the plant gives them relief.

chosis disappeared. The hype about marijuana and mental illness is thousands of years old, but I do think that data will finally put this myth to rest soon.

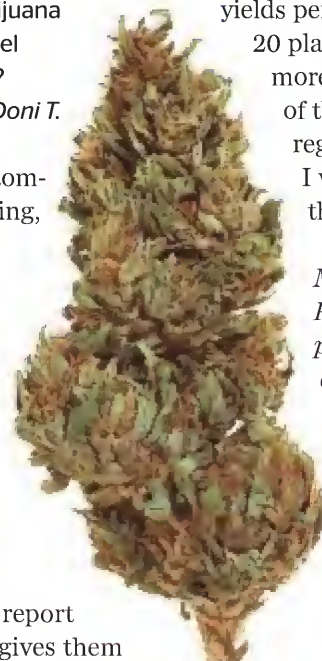
I know it's not one's favorite topic, but is there any research on medical marijuana for irritable bowel syndrome (IBS)?

—Doni T.

Hi Doni,
IBS involves stomachache, bloating, and changing bowel habits. It's a complete drag. No one knows its exact cause. The gastrointestinal tract is very rich in cannabinoid receptors, and folks with IBS report that the plant gives them

they needed to know yields to determine penalties when grows get busted. (Yeah, right.) Super Skunk and Big Bud had the highest yields with the most THC. The 600-watt bulbs created better plants than 400-watt bulbs. Growing 16 plants per square meter led to better yields per plant, but growing 20 plants per meter led to more total yield. None of this is news to the regular HT reader, but I was delighted to see the paper published.

Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana.



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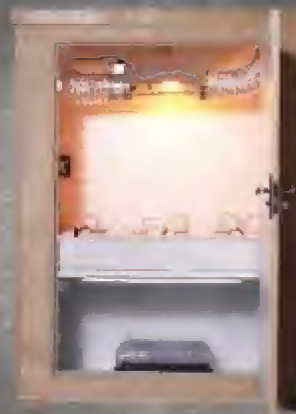
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The Origins of Marijuana Chemistry

Roger Adams was a true pioneer, the first to isolate and synthesize cannabis.

IN 1968, WHILE my father was the head of biochemistry at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, he was approached by a student who had recently been arrested for possession of marijuana. Since the student believed that marijuana was misclassified as a narcotic, he asked my father to testify to that effect at his upcoming trial.

"You've got the wrong guy," my dad told him. "You should ask Roger Adams."

Although not well known to the public, Adams was already a legend in the field of chemistry. Like all professors at the time, he'd been forced into retirement at age 65, in 1954, after having trained 172 Ph.D.s, published 375 scientific papers and single-handedly transformed the U of I. chemistry department into the best in the country (while becoming America's most politically connected chemist).

What few seem to realize today, however, is that Adams was also the first scientist to isolate and synthesize marijuana. He did this in 1939, at the request of the Treasury Department's Bureau of Narcotics, which had supplied him with "red oil" from a cannabis plantation.

Adams was a direct descendent of the famous Adams family of Boston, which had produced two US presidents. He entered Harvard at age 16 and became a faculty member upon graduation. However, his advancement at Harvard didn't proceed fast enough, so after three years he left Cambridge for the backwaters of central Illinois.

In 1928, Adams became a consultant to DuPont, and the following year he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences at the very young age of 40. After Adams produced his synthetic form of marijuana (pyrhexyl), he made one of his frequent trips to Washington, DC, to

deliver it to the federal government. While on the train, however, he realized that no one had ever ingested the substance to see if it actually worked. So, under the watchful eye of his assistant, he took a large dose on the train and became massively high. In a different circumstance, an associate who tried pyrhexyl described becoming "fuzzy, disoriented and anxious"

and after an hour was administered a sedative when he started questioning his sanity.

Adams did important work on synthetic rubber during World War II, and he was sent to both Germany and Japan after the war to assist with the rebuilding efforts and identify important scientists and research. This was the busiest time of his life, and Adams never had the opportunity to revisit his marijuana investigations. The development of nuclear

magnetic resonance in the 1940s allowed for much greater precision in the analysis of molecular structures, but by that time Adams was preoccupied with other projects, and it wasn't until 1964 that Raphael Mechoulam would employ the technique to fully identify the structure of THC.

By the way, Adams did agree to testify at the student's trial and told the jury that marijuana wasn't a narcotic. Based solely on his expert testimony, the student was found not guilty. Soon, Adams was receiving more requests to testify in marijuana cases, but he turned them all down, since they involved trials for sale and not just possession. However, he was awarded an honorary membership in the Students for a Democratic Society for his original testimony, and he proudly displayed that SDS award on his mantel along with the other numerous awards he'd received over the years.

Adams died on July 6, 1971, at the age of 82. ✨



Adams was a direct descendent of the famous Adams family of Boston, which had produced two US presidents.

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Detroit Pot City

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I'LL BE HONEST—Detroit's never been high on the list of places I was dying to visit. However, that doesn't mean I wasn't a fan of the machines and music that have called it home: Motown Records and the MC5, GM and Eminem, and especially Parliament Funkadelic and Pontiac. In fact, I've owned quite a few GM cars over the years: a '77 Monte Carlo, a '73 Impala, a red '77 Trans Am and my all-time favorite, the '69 LeMans I had back in college. Dark green with a black vinyl roof, fat, jacked-up back tires and a thunderous sound system ... it wasn't too pretty on the outside, but under the hood it roared like a tigress in heat. I found myself reminiscing about that old hot rod of mine after driving past the giant Uniroyal tire on our way into town for the inaugural Michigan Medical Cannabis Cup.



George Clinton gets the VIP tour.

Of all the domestic Cups we've put on thus far, this was the smallest in scale, but the biggest in heart. Everyone we met—vendors, staff and attendees—were as thankful to have us there as we were for their hospitality. Unfortunately, the police weren't quite as welcoming, patrolling through the event several times and making it clear that, despite our compliance with state law, a medicating area wouldn't be tolerated. Nevertheless, the entire event—seminars, party, expo and awards—went off without a hitch.

Around 4:20 p.m. on Saturday, I introduced the panel on veterans and medical marijuana with attorney John Targowski and Michael Krawitz, the executive chairman of Veterans for Medical Cannabis Access. I'd first connected with Krawitz via telephone a few years back while researching my feature "The Thin Green Line" (HT June '10), about vets using medical cannabis, but I had yet to meet him in person.

We became fast friends, shooting the shit about pot, politics and classic rock.

Later that afternoon, none other than Dr. Funkenstein himself, George Clinton, arrived at Bert's Theater with his posse to check out the expo, and I was recruited to be his tour guide. I led him from booth to booth and introduced him to all the vendors, who were excited to show off their products to the legendary performer. Despite the growing crowd that amassed around us, Clinton

remained as giddy as a kid on Christmas—taking a hit from a pot leaf-shaped ice-pipe, collecting free swag and graciously granting interviews to me and pretty much anyone else with a video camera. But the real highlight came that night at the VIP party, when Clinton

took the stage alongside some of his former P-Funk bandmates (now in the 420 Funk Mob) to perform a set of their classics for the ecstatic crowd.

The following day at the expo, I had the pleasure of crossing paths with the bodacious Kelley Jean from Detroit Dungeon TV, and we conducted simultaneous interviews of one another at the HIGH TIMES booth. Finally, at the awards show that evening, I had the honor of presenting the Cup for Best Concentrate to C4 for their Super Lemon Haze BHO—some of which I enjoyed at our private after-party later that night, along with a sixer or two of Kid Rock's locally brewed Badass American Lager.

As we passed a series of vacant, burned-out apartment complexes on the way back to the airport, I mused that Detroit wasn't unlike that old LeMans

of mine: a bit beat-up-looking on the outside, but beneath the surface hummed the heart and soul of America. As it turned out, my time in the "D" had unexpectedly stirred up a healthy dose of patriotism in me—and the hope that my first visit here won't be my last. ✨

Watch the video at: youtu.be/fLpHIHJD7xY



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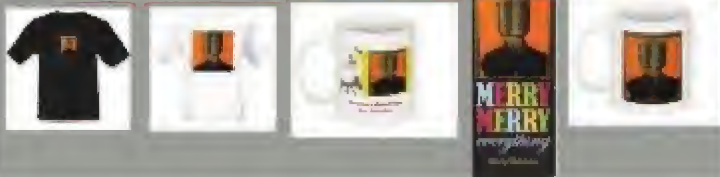
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A Time for Endurance

The Feds attempt a medical marijuana massacre.

Allen is executive director of NORML. Visit norml.org

RECENTLY, FOUR US Attorneys in California declared a statewide crackdown against large-scale medical cannabis cultivators and sellers. In conjunction, the Internal Revenue Service issued a long-awaited \$2.5 million ruling against a major medical cannabis dispensary in California. Citing an obscure part of the US tax code meant to target drug cartels, the IRS is barring dispensaries—even those licensed under state law—from taking any business-related tax deductions and will seek millions of dollars in back taxes.

Federal regulators have also cracked down on banks in Colorado, California and Michigan that previously conducted business with medical cannabis dispensaries, forbidding these financial institutions from accepting cash deposits or processing credit- and debit-card transactions involving state or locally approved canna-businesses.

Federal attorneys in California sent warnings to local dispensaries in San Francisco, San Diego and elsewhere warning that locally compliant facilities may still be subject to prosecution for violating federal “drug-free school zones” legislation, leaving these facilities with no choice but to move or close.

These same federal attorneys in California have also sent hundreds of letters to landlords renting to medical cannabis businesses, warning that their properties and assets are subject to swift civil-forfeiture proceedings and that they themselves could face decades in prison. Federal attorneys are even threatening to prosecute newspapers and magazines that advertise medical cannabis businesses and services!

These desperate attempts to maintain cannabis prohibition will ultimately fail.

On the state level, Rhode Island Governor Lincoln Chafee pulled the plug on the state’s nascent medical cannabis dispensary program. Why? Chafee cited recent memos from the Justice Department threatening to federally prosecute employees involved in the state-licensed production or distribution of cannabis.

Lastly, Michigan’s courts, legislature and attorney general are steadily dismantling the state’s medical cannabis program, despite the fact that the law creating the program passed with 63 percent public approval.

These desperate attempts to maintain cannabis prohibition will ultimately fail, but the short-term harm caused by their efforts—and the expense incurred by the marijuana-law reform movement to defeat them—looks to be high. ✨

FREEDOM FIGHTER

by Erik Altieri, NORML outreach coordinator

Bay State Activism

A Massachusetts activist puts the ‘grass’ in ‘grassroots.’

Cara Crabb-Burnham first got involved with the marijuana-law reform movement two years ago when she became an active leader with the Emerson College chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP). During her school break, she helped organize volunteers and logistics at the 2010 Boston Freedom Rally. As a result of her efforts, Cara went on to become

state coordinator as well as the interim Northeast regional coordinator for SSDP.

In the spring of 2010, Cara was elected to the board of directors of the Massachusetts Cannabis Reform Coalition (MassCann). She was the speaker coordinator for the 2011 Boston Freedom Rally and also one of the coordinators for MassCann’s 2nd Cannabis Convention, held in December. She currently co-hosts the *Boston Pot Report* with

NORML’s Dr. Keith Saunders, an Internet radio show that airs every Friday.

Cara is committed to raising awareness for marijuana-law reform efforts in Massachusetts and is working to establish a NORML Women’s Alliance group in Boston. “It’s important for professional women to have a space to talk about drug-policy reform and create innovative ways to educate their communities and families,” she says.



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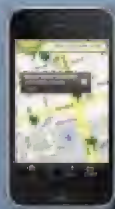
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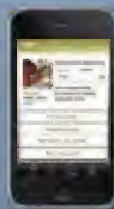
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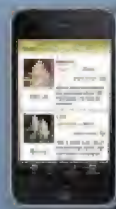
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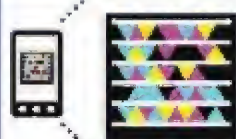
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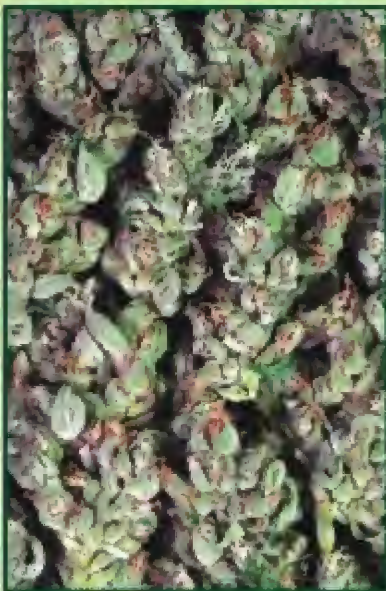
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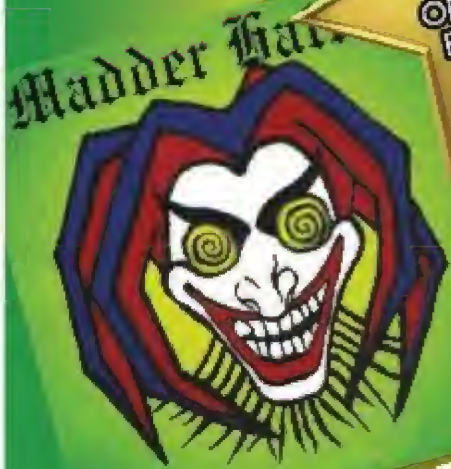
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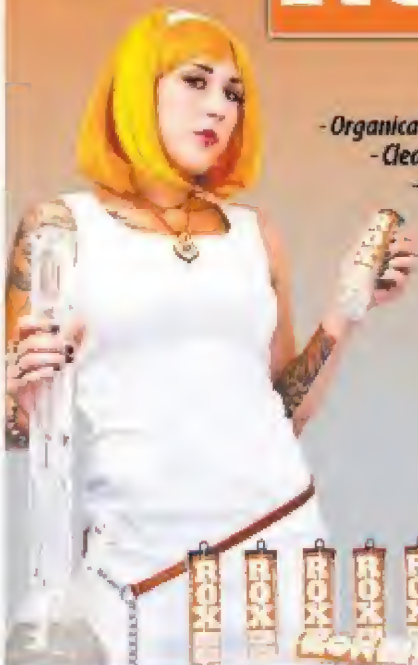
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GARDEN OF THE MONTH


Fences Make Great Neighbors

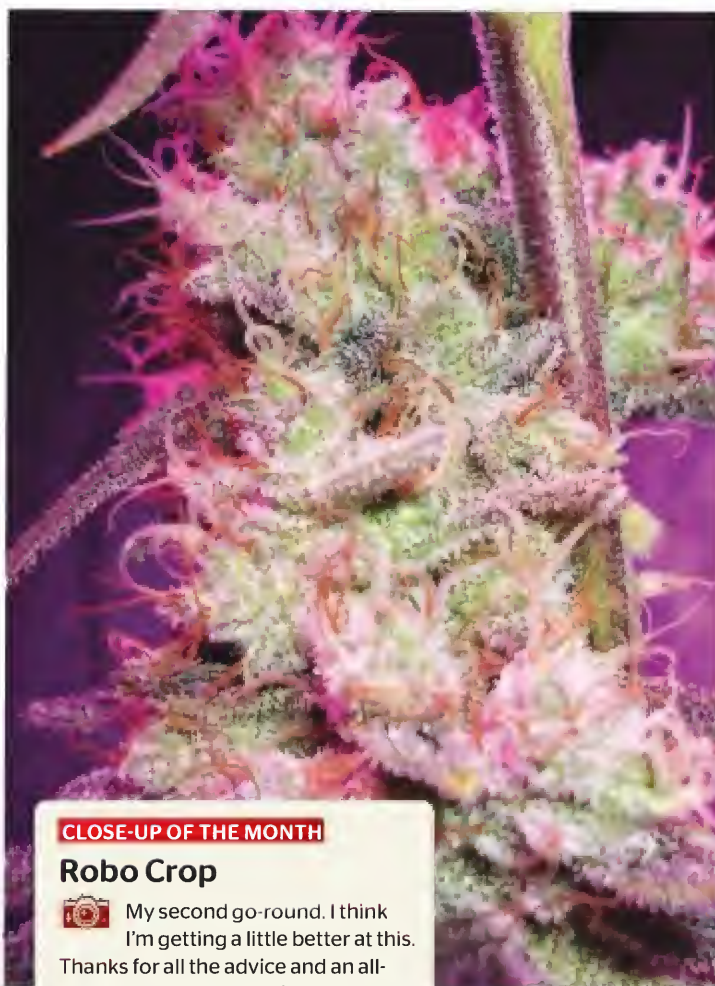
 Good girls; you did great! —JY



STONER OF THE MONTH


Thunder Funk

 This harvest was grown indoors in soil on Kenai Peninsula in Alaska. It's Strawberry Cough, fresh cut and manicured. —The "Budding Artist"



CLOSE-UP OF THE MONTH

Robo Crop

 My second go-round. I think I'm getting a little better at this. Thanks for all the advice and an all-around great magazine! I'm a proud Michigan MMJ grower! —K-Yote

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Senior editor Bobby Black covers a week that featured all kinds of surprises (good and bad); senior cultivation editor Danny Danko reviews the Cup champions; and Cup founder Steven Hager gets down with the Brotherhood of Eternal Love.

▶ A Private Cup For Snoop & Wiz

Hip-hop's top doggs sample the premier strains at the Cup and select their own winner. Sordid-affairs editor Chris Simunek leads a smoke-filled sesh with these two stellar stoners.

▶ Business Is Booming

Managing editor Jen Bernstein showcases the high-quality products from the top canna-businesses at the Cannabis Cup expo.

▶ High In The Hinterlands

Executive editor Dan Skye takes a trip to the *extremely* green Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

▶ Rudd & Bud

Actor Paul Rudd drops by to talk about his portfolio of big-screen stoner roles.

▶ Medical Problem

Think medical marijuana will lead the way to full-blown freedom for weed? Not so fast, says "Radical" Russ Belville: Medical pot may actually be interfering with legalization efforts.

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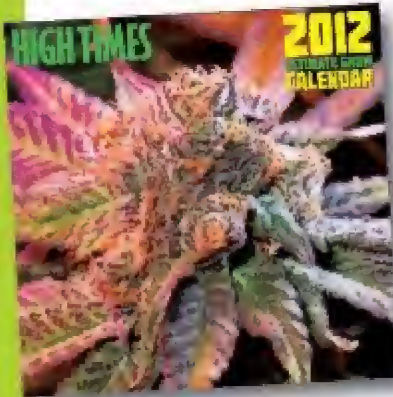
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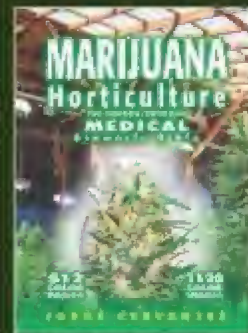


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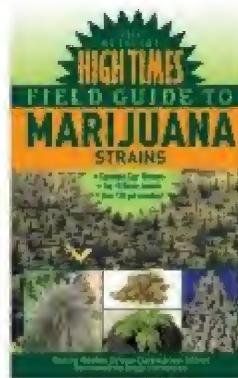


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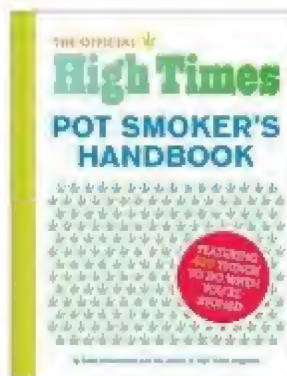
High Times Books



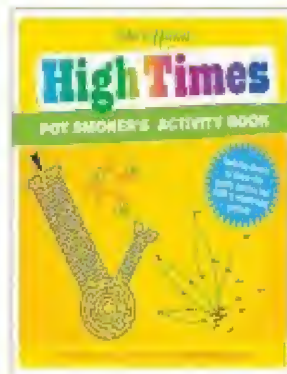
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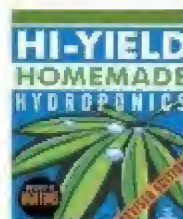
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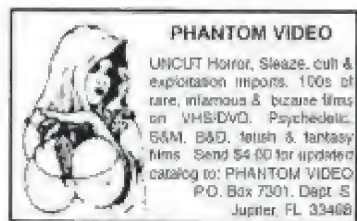
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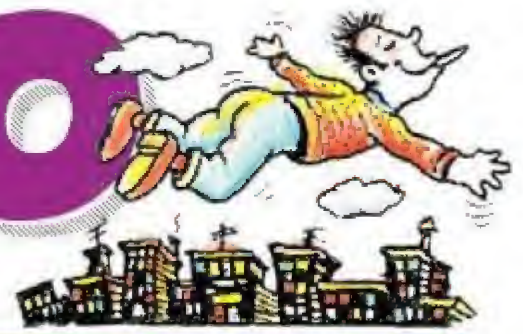
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37 **POT SMOKING** It's not the Counterculture, it's the Culture

38 **Will work for weed** - Denny Jones

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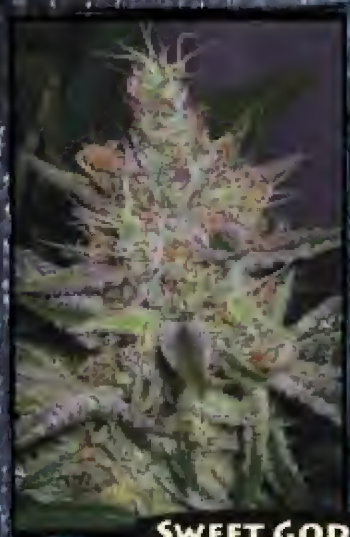
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